



HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

DAMS FILE COLLECTION

BOOK D03

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



*Donald E. Ashe, Register
Hampden County Registry of Deeds,
a Division of the Office of
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth*

TABLE OF CONTENTS ~ TOWN OF BRIMFIELD DAMS

Maple Lake Dam

Springfield Boy's Club Dam

Brimfield Brick Company Dam

Butler Dam aka Kaplinger Dam

Campbell Dam fka Wilcox Dam

Clough Dam

Wheeler Dam fka Campbell Dam fka Wilcox Dam

Dean Pond Dam fka Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam #1

Dearth Hill Pond Dam fka Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam #2

Roberts Dam fka Brimfield Brick Company Dam #1

Foskett Lake Stream Dam, Maple Lake Arms Dam , Maple Lake Dam

Little Alum Pond Dam aka McAllister Dam

Smith, J R, Dam

Kaplinger Dam aka Butler Dam

Farrer Dam

Lake Sherman Outlet

Maple Lake Arms Dam

Mill Pond Dam

TABLE OF CONTENTS ~ TOWN OF BRIMFIELD DAMS

Monette Dam

Morgan Dam

Pierce Dam fka Humpage Dam fka Anderson Dam

Smith Dam

Snell Dam

Sportsmen's Club Dam

Sherman Lake Dam

Cheney Dam

Moulton Dam fka Brimfield Brick Company Dam #2

Woodman Pond Dam fka Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam #3

Maple Lake Dam



1926 Brimfield

Dam located on Elbow Brook, Maple Lake. Benjamin & Karczmorczyk Dam; formerly F.F. Isaacs Estate Dam. See Also: Foskett Lake Stream Dam & Maple Lake Arms Dam.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Maple Lake Dam
Name	Isaacs, F F
Name	Karczmorczyk, Stanley A
Name	Benjamin, Phillip E
Water	Maple Lake
Water	Elbow Brook

February 3, 1926

F. F. Isaacs,
82 Leyfred Terrace,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Elbow Brook so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him:

"The penstock, which was connected with the gristmill, is considerably deteriorated, and breaking down, thus causing the falling in of the embankment around it. Such a condition will cause failure of the structure sooner or later, and as its pondage might cause damage, if suddenly released, I recommend that the structure be repaired at once or else the pond be drawn down and kept down until repaired."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman.

Page 11 of report

J F Isaacs,

82 Leyford Terrace,

Springfield, Mass.

you are notified that your dam,
located on Elbow Brook so called in the Town of
Greenfield, etc.

"The penstock, which was connected
with the gristmill, is considerably deteriorated,
and breaking down, thus causing the falling
in of the embankment around it. Such a
condition will cause failure of the structure
sooner or later, and as its pondage might
cause damage, if suddenly released, I
recommend that the structure be repaired
at once or else the pond be drawn down
and kept down until repaired."

Now, therefore, etc.

re: at F. F. Isaacs,
82 Leyfred Terrace,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

A notification was sent to you on March 10th last relative to the condition of your dam, a copy of which is hereto attached.

Inasmuch as your dam was inspected again quite recently by our engineer and that he found that no repairs had as yet been made on the structure, your attention is called to Sections 47 and 48 of Chapter 353 of the General Laws as amended by Sections 3 and 4 of Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924, which are as follows:

Section 47. "If after notice in writing to the owner of a reservoir or dam which has been so examined and adjudged to be unsafe, the said owner refuses or neglects to make such alterations or repairs as the commissioners order, they may, at the expense of the county, cause such reservoir or dam to be altered and repaired or any part thereof removed or the water drawn off, whichever they may consider necessary for the safety of life, property, roads or bridges on the stream below. After such removal, no structure shall be erected except in compliance with the three preceding sections, and after the water has been drawn off, the reservoir shall not be filled again until the orders of the commissioners have been complied with."

Section 48. "The Commissioners shall make such orders as they may deem just as to the payment by the owner, county or other party of the costs and expenses incurred by them under the three preceding sections, and if the reservoir or dam was adjudged to be unsafe, said costs and expenses may be ordered paid by the owner, with interest, from the time they were paid by the county. Notice shall be given the County Treasurer and the owner or other party of the amount due the county."

If the order of the commissioners is not complied with, the commissioners will be forced to proceed in the manner above authorized.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,

By _____
Chairman.

December 22, 1926

Mr. F. F. Isaacs,
Crown Hotel,
15 Lyman Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

A notification was sent to you on Feb. 3rd last relative to the condition of your dam, a copy of which is hereto attached.

Inasmuch as your dam was inspected again quite recently by our engineer and that he found that no repairs had as yet been made on the structure, your attention is called to Sections 47 and 48 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Sections 3 and 4 of Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924, which are as follows:

Section 47. "If after notice in writing to the owner of a reservoir or dam which has been so examined and adjudged to be unsafe, the said owner refuses or neglects to make such alterations or repairs as the commissioners order, they may, at the expense of the county, cause such reservoir or dam to be altered and repaired or any part thereof removed or the water drawn off, whichever they may consider necessary for the safety of life, property, roads or bridges on the stream below. After such removal, no structure shall be erected except in compliance with the three preceding sections, and after the water has been drawn off, the reservoir shall not be filled again until the orders of the commissioners have been complied with."

Section 48. "The Commissioners shall make such orders as they may deem just as to the payment by the owner, county or other party of the costs and expenses incurred by them under the three preceding sections, and if the reservoir or dam was adjudged to be unsafe, said costs and expenses

December 22, 1926

Mr. F. F. Isaacs - 2.

may be ordered paid by the owner, with interest,
from the time they were paid by the county.
Notice shall be given the County Treasurer and
the owner or other party of the amount due the
county."

If the order of the commissioners is not com-
plied with, the commissioners will be forced to proceed
in the manner above authorized.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

C/W

September 20, 1950

Phillip E. Benjamin and
Stanley A. Karczmorczyk
Old Brimfield Road
Palmer, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located in Brimfield has been recently inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"There is a leak beside the drawoff pipe, and the surface of the gravel fill at the abutment above the drawoff pipe has settled. The leak appears to be washing sand and gravel from the abutment area. The pond should be drawn down and the leak investigated and repaired."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Maple Lake Dam
Brimfield

November 14, 1951

Phillip E. Benjamin and
Stanley A. Karczmorczyk
Old Brimfield Road
Palmer, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located in Brimfield has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"There is a leak adjacent to the drawoff pipe through the dam. Flashboards are still in place on the dam. The flashboards should be removed each year during the Winter and Spring seasons and the pond should be drawn down and the leak investigated and repaired."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

*Enclosed Sub - B
Brimfield*

December 3, 1952

Philip E. Benjamin
Stanley A. Karczmorczyk
Old Brimfield Road
Palmer, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located in Brimfield has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"There is a leak outside of the drawoff pipe and the concrete of the abutment wall is disintegrating at this area. The pond should be drawn down and the leak investigated and repaired. The owner of the dam should be requested to notify your Board when he plans to do this work so that a definite schedule for the necessary investigation and repairs can be determined."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Maple Lake Dam, Brimfield

P.S. - We request that you notify us as to when you plan to do this work.

Chairman, Hampden County
Commissioners.

Springfield Boy's Club Dam



o Brimfield

See Also: Dam Report Section - Brimfield. See Also: County Highways - Springfield Boys Club Dam - ch09023.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Springfield Boy's Club Dam

BRIMFIELD
D03002

SPRINGFIELD BOY'S CLUB DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Brimfield Brick Company Dam



1933 Brimfield

Dam and spillway located on Blodgett Mill Brook in West Brimfield. Also see: Roberts Dam & Moulton Dam.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Brimfield Brick Company Dam
Name	Brimfield Brick Company
Water	Blodgett Mill Brook

April 26, 1933

Brimfield Brick Company
West Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 234 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County you are notified that your upper dam, located on Blodgett Mill Brook, so called, in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"The dam is in poor condition at present as the timbers and planking in the sluiceway are badly decayed and falling out of place. On the south side of the sluiceway the embankment is worked out, and the planking supporting the earthwork at the north end of the spillway is breaking down. On the whole, it may be stated that the dam is in poor condition and should be put in repair if the pond is to be maintained."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with in a reasonable length of time.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

BRIMFIELD BRICK COMPANY, INC.

MANUFACTURERS OF
COMMON SAND STRUCK BRICK

TELEPHONE WARE 16

PLANT
WEST BRIMFIELD, MASS.

5/4/33

OFFICE
WARE, MASS.

County Commissioners,
County of Hampden,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

We are in receipt of your letter of recent date advising us of the poor condition of the dam located on our property in West Brimfield, Mass. Please be advised that we shall take up the matter of repairing the dam in a very short time and upon completion of the defects, noted in your recommendations, we will advise you when work is done.

Thanking you for calling this matter to our attention, we remain,

Very truly yours,

EST/T

Edward Tregar. Treas.

This letter written in
Mr. Tighe's office.

September 30, 1935

Brimfield Brick Company
West Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County you are notified that your upper dam, located on Blodgett Mill Brook, so called, in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"The south end concrete abutment upstream extension wall of the spillway of the dam is out of plumb and overturning towards the pond. The vertical planking of the framework of the canal or sluice-way laid through the embankment is disintegrating through decay and the earth work supported by it is falling into the sluice-way. It is recommended that the necessary repairs be made on this sluice-way and also on the spillway extension wall before the winter sets in or if not that the pond formed by the dam be drawn down.

Now, therefore, in accordance with section 46 of said Chapter 253 it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with on or before Dec. 1st of the present year.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours truly

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By...Thos. J. Costello
Chairman

.....Chas. W. Bray.....

.....Maurice G. Donahue

BRIMFIELD BRICK COMPANY, INC.

MANUFACTURERS OF
COMMON SAND STRUCK BRICK

TELEPHONE WARE 16

PLANT
WEST BRIMFIELD, MASS.

November 29 1935

OFFICE
WARE, MASS.

County Commissioners,
Springfield,
Mass.

Gentlemen,

In accordance with your request in your letter to us dated September 30 1935, and in which you called our attention to the necessary repairs to be made on the dam and spillway located on our property in West Brimfield, Mass., we wish to advise you that, as suggested, we have drawn down the pond formed by this dam. We are holding your letter in our files and before the pond will be filled again, we will comply with your recommendations.

Very truly yours,

Edward Hecar. Treas.

EST/T

*Copy of this letter
sent to Mr. Dyer
on Dec. 9, 1935*

Butler Dam aka Kaplinger Dam



o Brimfield

See also: Kaplinger Dam.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Butler Dam
Dam	Kaplinger Dam

BRIMFIELD
D03004

BUTLER DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Campbell Dam fka Wilcox Dam



1933 Brimfield

Located on Mill Brook - see map attached. See also Wheeler Dam & Wilcox Dam.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Campbell Dam
Dam	Wilcox Dam
Name	Wilcox, Lowell
Water	Mill Brook

May 10, 1923

Mr. Lowell Wilcox,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Mill Brook, so called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following condition noted and recommendation made by him;

"There are flashboards eighteen inches in height on the spillway of this dam. It is recommended that these flashboards be removed during the Spring flood season and at all other times of high water."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with.

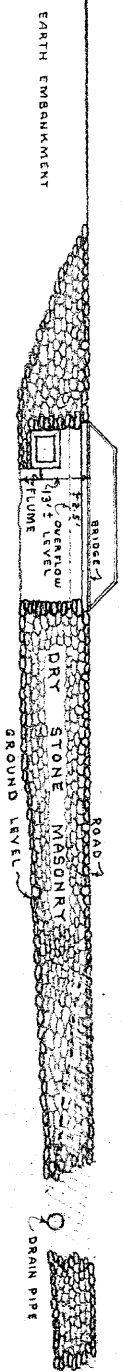
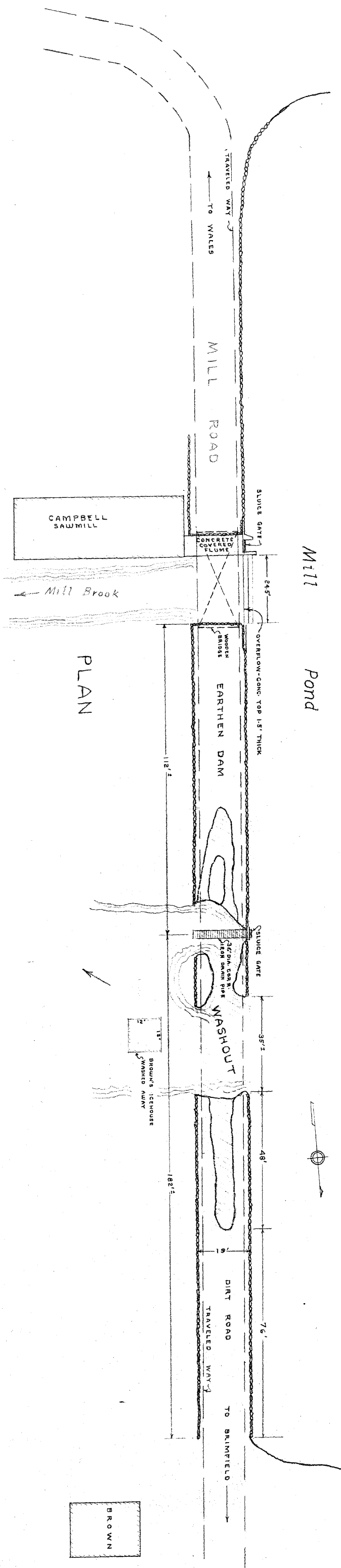
Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

Mill Pond



ELEVATION

DOWNSTREAM SIDE

SKETCH SHOWING
WASHOUT AT WILCOX DAM
BRIMFIELD, MASS.
SCALE: 1"=20' MAR. 1936
JAMES L. TIGHE, ENGINEER

Clough Dam



1956 Brimfield

Located upstream from Hollow Road on a tributary to Hollow Brook at a point approx 1/2 way between State Highway Route 20 & Brimfield-Wales town line.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Clough Dam
Streets	Hollow Road
Water	Hollow Brook

BRIMFIELD
D03006

CLOUGH DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Wheeler Dam fka Campbell Dam fka Wilcox Dam



1962 Brimfield

Dam located on Mill Brook

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Campbell Dam
Dam	Wilcox Dam
Dam	Wheeler Dam
Name	Wilcox, C R
Name	Killian
Name	Campbell
Water	Mill Brook

Aug. 15, 1962

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapt. 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the dam formerly known as Wheeler Dam and located on Mill Road has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

The dam embankment and the masonry work was found to be in good condition. Some brush was noted growing from the slopes of the embankment and this should be cut down in the coming year to be certain that it does not become too thick.

One of the four bolts holding the gate operating stand to the bracket, at the entry to the penstock leading to the Old Mill has no nut. A nut and washer should be attached to the bolt and drawn up tightly, so that the gate stand will be properly supported by the bracket.

If any further information is desired in connection with this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Acting
Commissioner

Dean Pond Dam fka Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam No 1



1969 Brimfield

Located in Brimfield State Forest - Dam at Dean Pond.

Abutters	Brimfield State Forest
Abutters	Massachusetts Comm Conservation
City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam No 1
Dam	Dean Pond Dam
Water	Dean Pond

August 13, 1969

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
Brimfield State Forest
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq., of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of dams in Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the dam at Dean Pond in Brimfield has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him concerning maintenance at this dam.

"The spillway masonry is in very good condition. No flashboards were on the crest of the spillway. The water level in storage was at crest elevation. All stone masonry was noted to be well pointed.

The embankment surface at the right of the spillway and adjacent to the spillway abutment is eroded somewhat, apparently by foot traffic. The condition is not dangerous.

The main embankment is o. k. and has a fair turf surface. The surface could be improved by fertilizing.

The drawdown gate operator should be serviced and greased.

The toe of the embankment was noted to be dry and in very good condition. In the opinion of the undersigned, the dam is safe.

Just downstream of the dam, where the road crosses the stream on a small bridge, the downstream section of the left bridge abutment has failed and as a result, the corner of the roadway bridge is no longer properly supported. If the condition is not

corrected soon, complete failure of the roadway bridge will occur. Proper corrective measures taken now, at moderate cost, can prevent failure of the roadway bridge.

It is recommended that the Department of Natural Resources and the Town of Brimfield be advised of this dangerous condition at the roadway bridge."

Any further information desired in connection with the recommendations contained herewith, may be had by calling our Board or the County Hydraulic Engineer.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Aug. 13, 1969

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Brimfield, Mass.

Re: Access Road to Dean Pond
Brimfield State Forest

Gentlemen:

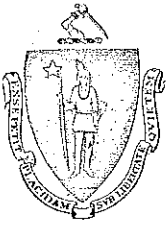
The County Hydraulic Engineer, in making inspection of the dam at Dean Pond noted that the bridge carrying the roadway over the stream just below Dean Pond Dam is no longer properly supported by the left abutment. The downstream end of the left abutment supporting the roadway bridge has failed and the entire corner of the bridge at this location no longer has proper support

Since it is possible that the maintenance of this bridge is the responsibility of the Town of Brimfield, we are calling your attention to the condition of the abutment for whatever action you wish to take in protecting the roadway bridge.

The condition of the bridge was noted in the report on the condition of Dean Pond Dam submitted by the County Hydraulic Engineer to our Board. We have advised personnel of the Brimfield State Forest of the bridge condition in case maintenance is the responsibility of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Hampden

Springfield, Mass.

Office of the
County Commissioners
52 State Street

William F. Stapleton
~~Richard H. Haskin~~

~~Floyd M. Fradet~~
Stephen A. Moynahan,
Chairman

July 29, 1970

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Brimfield, Massachusetts

Re: Access Road to Dean Pond
Brimfield State Forest

Gentlemen:

The County Hydraulic Engineer, in making his inspection of the dam at Dean Pond, noted again this year that the bridge carrying the roadway over the stream just below Dean Pond is still not properly supported by the left abutment. This stone masonry abutment has failed at the downstream end and the County Hydraulic Engineer reports that the stone work is unravelling back towards the center of the bridge on the left side.

Since it is possible that the maintenance of this bridge is the responsibility of the Town of Brimfield and since, as pointed out to us by the County Hydraulic Engineer, the bridge is in a condition whereby failure might occur with the possible loss of life or injury to persons, we call your attention to the need for repairs to protect the public making use of this bridge.

The condition of the bridge was reported a year ago to your Board in a letter from our Board on August 13, 1969, and at that time, the condition was also reported to the Commonwealth of Mass., Brimfield State Forest. Since the condition of the bridge is not related to the safety of the dam, our Board is simply passing on to you the information contained in the report of the County Hydraulic Engineer.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Stephen A. Moynahan
William F. Stapleton

Dearth Hill Pond Dam fka Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam No 2



1967 Brimfield

Located in Brimfield State Forest - Dam at Dearth Hill Pond.

Abutters	Brimfield State Forest
Abutters	Massachusetts Comm Conservation
City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam No 2
Dam	Woodman Pond Dam
Dam	Dearth Hill Pond Dam
Water	Woodman Pond
Water	Dearth Hill Pond

Dec. 12, 1956

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
State House
Boston 33, Mass.

Re: Dams at Brimfield State
Forest
A. Dearth Hill Pond Dam
B. Woodman Pond Dam

Gentlemen:

Our County Hydraulic Engineer has made an inspection of your dams at the Brimfield State Forest and has reported to us that each of the two dams referred to above requires certain maintenance and repairs.

The Dearth Hill Pond Dam is an earth and masonry structure containing two spillways, one near the center section and one at the right side. The channel downstream of the spillway on the right side of the dam has been washed out somewhat by flood flows. The repair of this condition seems advisable. A leak exists under the right spillway just downstream of the masonry face of the spillway and near the left corner. It would seem desirable to investigate this leak and, if found serious, the leak should be repaired. At the present time there seems to be no movement of fine material in the water flowing thru the leak area. Provided no earth is washed out by this leak the only problem will be that of maintaining a pond during low water flow in the brook.

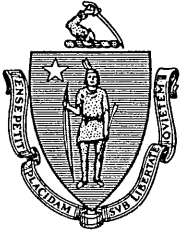
At Woodman Pond Dam the new fill placed near the right end of the dam appears to be a relatively sandy-gravel material. Leakage is taking place under this fill. The leakage as now existing is not dangerous to the safety of the dam but the loss of water may be at a sufficiently high rate to cause emptying of the pond during dry weather. It would seem advisable to take the necessary steps to reduce the seepage thru this fill.

If you desire any further information on this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

GHM/f



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forests and Parks

15 Ashburton Place, Boston 8

January 2, 1957

Mr. William F. Stapleton, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
37 Elm Street
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We acknowledge with appreciation your letter of December 12, transmitting your report of the Hydraulic Engineer relative to the dams on the Brimfield State Forest.

This report will receive our immediate consideration.

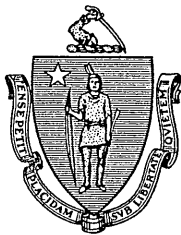
Very truly yours

Raymond J. Kenney
Raymond J. Kenney
Director of Forests and Parks

RJK:mk

Received January 3, 1957 in Hampden County
Commissioners' Office.

Copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer, on January 10, 1957.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forests and Parks

15 Ashburton Place, Boston 8

January 10, 1958

William F. Stapleton, Chairman
County Commissioners
County of Hampdon
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:-

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 8, 1958, in which you bring to the attention of this department, the conditions of two dams at the Brimfield Forest, namely Dearth Hill Pond Dam and Woodman Pond Dam.

This report will be referred to our engineer who handles matters of this kind and with a request that he look into it.

Very truly yours,

Arnold E. Howard

ARNOLD E. HOWARD
Chief of Recreation

AEH:jt

cc: E. Dube'

Copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer, on January 13, 1958.

August 27, 1958

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
State House
Boston 33, Mass.

re: Dams at Brimfield State Forest
A. Dearth Hill Pond Dam
B. Woodman Pond Dam

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition, and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your two dams above referred to located in Brimfield State Forest have been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"Dearth Hill Pond Dam Leakage under the right abutment at the west spillway and under the left end of the east spillway itself is still noticed. No change has been made at this dam since the time of the last inspection. It would seem advisable to have the leakage thru this dam repaired.

Woodman Pond Dam The masonry of the west spillway chute needs repairs. Failure to make repairs could result in further deterioration of the spillway and could result in more expensive repairs for the future. Consideration should be given to the enlargement of the spillway capacity at this dam in the near future. "

If you desire any further information, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Thomas F. Sullivan

William F. Stapleton

Acting
Commissioner

Francis M. O'Keefe

August 14, 1959

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
State House
Boston 33, Mass.

Re: Dams at Brimfield
State Forest

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition, and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your three dams located in Brimfield State Forest have been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"Dearth Hill Pond Dam Leakage under the spillways, and particularly at the central abutment area, is still taking place. In fact, the leakage seems to have been increased somewhat. It is recommended that the owner investigate this leakage and, if found serious, the leakage should be controlled. The spillway channels should be provided the necessary maintenance to return them to good condition.

Woodman Pond Dam The spillway chutes are in need of repairs thru the maintenance of the stone masonry and mortar. Failure to make the necessary repairs could result in further deterioration of the spillway structures and more expensive repairs may be needed in the future. Consideration should be given to the enlargement of the spillway capacity at this dam in the near future.

Dean Pond Dam Both the masonry spillway and the earth embankment of this dam were found to be in excellent condition. However, the road gutter that passes to the right of the dam is being eroded by surface wash. This gutter, if erosion is allowed to continue, could eventually result in a major washout in time of heavy prolonged rain. Such a washout might conceivably extend to the abutment area of the right spillway

abutment. Consequently, it is advisable that the gutters of the road passing to the right of the spillway abutment be properly maintained and any washouts that do occur be properly repaired at an early stage."

Any further information desired in connection with the above recommendations may be had by calling upon this Board.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ralph P. Walsh

William F. Stapleton

Francis M. O'Keefe

Acting
Commissioner

Aug. 24, 1960

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
State House
Boston 33, Mass.

Re: Dams at Brimfield
State Forest

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition, and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your three dams located in Brimfield State Forest have been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"Dearth Hill Pond Dam No improvements have been made to the central abutment pertaining to leakage control and to the spillway channels immediately downstream of the overflows. General maintenance is needed at this dam as previously reported.

Woodman Pond Dam This pond was found to be empty and improvements to the dam and spillways are now underway as per plans and specifications approved by your Board. The enlarged left spillway is under construction. Concrete forms are in place and reinforcing steel was being set for the left spillway wall. The right wall had been poured prior to the last inspection. The construction work will be inspected from time to time as it progresses.

Dean Pond Dam Some of the masonry joints in the spillway overflow need pointing up, particularly at the abutment walls. Road gutters to the right of the dam should be paved or stabilized and thus protected from washout during time of heavy storm runoff. A severe washout at the road gutter might endanger the right abutment of the dam and release stored water from the pond. The earth embankment in general, is in good condition."

Any further information desired in connection with the above recommendations may be had by calling upon this Board.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William F. Stapleton

Thomas F. Sullivan

Acting
Commissioner Francis M. O'Keefe

June 28, 1967

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
Brimfield State Forest
Brimfield, Massachusetts

Re: Dearth Hill Pond Dam

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of dams in Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the Dearth Hill Pond Dam in Brimfield State Forest has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him concerning maintenance at this dam.

"The three earth embankment sections forming this dam were found to be in satisfactory condition. Some small brush growth is taking place on various areas of the dam and this growth should be cleared and discouraged. The turf cover on the embankment sections of the dam was found to be in fair condition. A good healthy growth of turf should be encouraged on all earth embankment surfaces.

The downstream stone masonry walls were found to be okay. Spillway facilities were satisfactory. Water level in storage was at the crest of the left spillway. No flashboards were on the crest of either spillway. The downstream rock paving to prevent stream erosion was found to be satisfactory. The stream bed just below the dam is becoming overgrown with small trees and brush. This growth should be cleared and kept cut down. No toe seepage was noted at the dam."

June 28, 1967

Any further information desired in connection with the recommendations contained herein, may be had by calling our Board or the County Hydraulic Engineer.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Roberts Dam fka Brimfield Erick Company Dam No 1



o Brimfield

See Also: Moulton Dam & Brimfield Erick Company Dam.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Roberts Dam
Dam	Brimfield Brick Company Dam No 1
Name	Brimfield Brick Company
Name	Roberts, Ernest

BRIMFIELD
D03010

ROBERTS DAM fka BRIMFIELD BRICK COMPANY DAM
NO 1

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Foskett Lake Stream Dam aka Maple Lake Arms Dam aka Maple Lake Dam



o Brimfield

Also See: Maple Lake Dam & Maple Lake Arms Dam. Also See: County Highways, "Dam at Foskit Mills", cho7005.

Dam	Foskett Lake Stream Dam
Dam	Maple Lake Arms Dam
Dam	Maple Lake Dam
Name	Karcmarczk, Stanley A

BRIMFIELD
D03011

FOSKETT LAKE STREAM DAM aka MAPLE LAKE ARMS
DAM aka MAPLE LAKE DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Little Alum Pond Dam aka McAllister Dam



1926 Brimfield

Dam located on Little Alum Pond. See County Highways, Little Alum Pond Dam Repair - cho8029.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Little Alum Pond Dam
Dam	McAllister Dam
Name	McAllister, G S
Name	Little Alum Lake Association
Water	Little Alum Pond

March 24, 1926

Mr. William Duprey,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"It is recommended that the dam be repaired or the spillway be lowered until the pond is returned to its natural height."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Page 10 of report

Mr. Macallister

William Duprey,

East Brimfield, Mass.

George McAllister

68 Edgewood St.

Hartford Conn.

you are notified that your dam,
located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so called
in the Town of Brimfield, etc.

"It is recommended that the dam be
repaired or the spillway be lowered until
the pond is returned to its natural height."

Now, therefore, etc.

March 24, 1926

Mr. George McAllister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"It is recommended that the dam be repaired or the spillway be lowered until the pond is returned to its natural height."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Hartford Conn.

Apr 5-26

County Commissioners
Springfield Mass.

Dear Sirs - In regard to
the repairs to dam at
Blue Pond, Brimfield -
I will say, upon a
recent inspection I noticed
the water was unusually
high but was unable
to locate any trace of
bounds or high water mark

Can you furnish
me with specific
bounds that would
return the pond to
its natural level or
height, If so I
will see that your
recommendations are carried
out as soon as
possible

Yours truly

G. S. Macallister

68 Edgewood St.

April 9, 1926

Mr. G. S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 5, 1926, regarding your dam at Alum Pond in Brimfield.

We have referred same to our Engineer and upon receipt of word from him, we will advise you in regard to the matter.

Yours truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____ Chairman.

c/n

April 9, 1926

Mr. James L. Tighe,
189 High Street,
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Mr. Tighe:

Enclosed herewith is copy of a
letter from Mr. G. S. Macallister which is self-
explanatory.

Kindly advise us in regard to
this.

Yours truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/N

JAMES L. TIGHE

MEMBER
AM. SOC. C. E.
INST. C. E. GREAT BRITAIN
ENG. INST. OF CANADA

CONSULTING ENGINEER
CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 189 HIGH STREET
HOLYOKE, MASS.
TELEPHONE 790

MEMBER
BOSTON SOC. C. E.
ENG. SOC. WEST. MASS.
AM. & N. E. W. W. ASSOC'S

MEMBER AM. INST. OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
ANALYSIS OF WATER

WATER POWER INVESTIGATIONS
AND DEVELOPMENT
DAMS AND POWER INSTALLATIONS
ESTIMATES AND APPRAISALS

Holyoke, Mass.

April 10, 1926.

The Honorable The Board of Hampden County Commissioners,

George S. Cook, Chairman,

Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter with enclosure relative to the dam across the outlet of Little Alum Pond in Brimfield and beg to state in answer thereto that the pond will return to its natural level or state if the dam is removed.

Inasmuch, as it appears from his letter, the owner, Mr. G. S. Macallister, does not contemplate the making of any repairs on the structure, the thing for him to do ^{then} is to remove the dam and thus cause the pond to return to its natural height.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Tighe

April 28, 1926

Mr. G. S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

In regard to your dam at Alum Pond in
Brimfield, we are enclosing herewith copy of recommen-
dations from our Engineer, Mr. James L. Tighe, in reply
to your letter of April 5, 1926.

The County Commissioners expect that you
will conform with the law and act in accordance with the
recommendations submitted by Mr. Tighe.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N
Enc.

Hartford, Conn,
May 27-26

County Commissioners
Springfield, Mass

Dear Sirs - In regard
to the dam at Little
Alum Pond mentioned
in your recent letter
I will say, the other
owner and my self have
had contractors look over
the job of repairing and
as soon as the high water

grows down we contemplate
putting in a more substantial
dam.

I fail to see where
your engineer got the
idea that I did not
intend to repair it -
as I have contemplated
it for several years

Yours Truly

Geo. S. Macallister

68 Edgewood St

June 2, 1926

Mr. Geo. S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of
May 27th and note that you expect to repair your dam
in the very near future.

Kindly notify us just as soon as the
repairs are completed so we can have our Engineer in-
spect same.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

June 22, 1926

Mr. W. G. Curry of 27 Bevier St. Springfield.

Mr. Martin Flynn of 26 Orchard St. Chicopee

want water maintained ^{at} the same level

because they own about 15 summer cottages & they don't want to be damaged in case anything happened to the dam.

Mr. Cook to write a letter to Mr. Macallister

Alum Pond in Brimfield.

East Brimfield Mass.
Oct 19. 1926

Mr Cook Chairman County Com
Springfield Mass.

Dear Sir: I am writing
you to inquire if you can
give me any information
regarding the real owners
of the water rights to the
Little Alum Pond in Brimfield

The cottage owners are
much interested in having
the water kept up and they
are willing to stand the
expense of building a new
dam but are unable to
obtain the proper authority

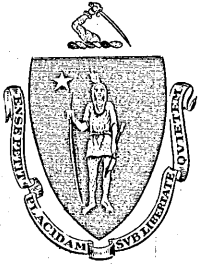
I have talked with Messrs
Dupuy and Macallister who
claim to hold some rights
and they both tell me that
they will not invest any money
in repairs to the dam as it
would be no benefit to them

but are unwilling to give
anyone authority to make
the repairs. I shall be
glad to cooperate with you
in any way possible to
have the dam repaired
either to furnishing references
to the records or in locating
the old bounds referred to in
the records. I believe
you can appreciate the
unhealthy condition which
would be caused by lowering
the pond aside from the
damage to property of the
Cottage owners. Also damage
to the breeding ground of the
fish. I would also like to
inquire if it would be legal
to draw down a stocked
pond without authority from
the Fish and Game Com.
The State has this day
stocked the pond with
good fish. I hope have
not already done so I

would refer you to the
deed given by John Bixby and
Ell. Newell as recorded in
Hamp. Co. Reg. March 25-1839
Book 108 Page 15

I am anxious to have the
water kept up but am unable
to know who can give the
proper authority and thought
you might be able to give
some information -

Yours very truly
W.C. Davenport.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Hampden

Springfield, Mass.

October 19, 1926

Office of the
County Commissioners

George S. Cook
Chairman

~~Daniel O'Neil~~
John Hall

(C O P Y)

Mr. J. A. Christenson, Engineer,
Southbridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Relative to the approval of plan and specifications for the reconstruction and repairs of dam owned by Messrs. Dupre and McAllister, located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so-called in Brimfield, Mass., before same can be approved by the County Commissioners, a petition will have to be entered, and we are enclosing one for Messrs. Dupre and McAllister to sign.

Under the law, a fee of \$3.00 must be paid to enter the petition, and when this is done the County Commissioners will approve the plan and specifications and make an interlocutory decree so the work can proceed.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By George S. Cook
Chairman.
N.

C/N

Please read over

East Brimfield Mass.

Nov. 5 1926

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners
For the County of Hampden

Springfield Mass

Dear Sir,

copy of this
letter sent
to Mr. Sec.
Macallister
on Nov. 11, 1926

Please find enclosed money order for ^{\$}3.00
To enter the Petition to be approved by County
Commissioners,

But as its so late in the season and the
cottage owners are willing to help us to
pay expenses to rebuild the Dam We
would like to ask your Honorable board
to extend the time until Spring. Then
it would be easier for us, and we
would be able to get the Cottage owners
all together and see if it would be
satisfactory to all. In the mean time
If you think there is any danger we can
lower the water or reinforce the old
dam - for the winter. Your very truly

Duprey + Macallister

Per Wm. Duprey.

October 25, 1926

Mr. W. C. Davenport,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of October 19th received and the writer notes carefully what you say relative to Little Alum Pond in Brimfield.

Recently Duprey and Macallister through their Engineer, J. A. Christenson of Southbridge, Mass., submitted plan and specifications for the reconstruction of the dam at Little Alum Pond. We referred these specifications and plan to our Engineer, James L. Tighe of Holyoke, Mass., and they are to be improved with some slight changes.

It is the writer's impression that Duprey and Macallister are planning on repairing this dam and I do not think you will have anything to worry about relative to this matter.

The County Commissioners do not know the real owners of the water rights to Little Alum Pond but the best records available we have received from our Engineer are that Duprey and Macallister are responsible and for that reason we took the matter up with them.

What the County Commissioners are really interested in is to have the dam repaired so there will be no danger of the water ever going out in flood time causing a possible loss of life, or property damage.

Hoping this gives you the information desired,
I am

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

November 9, 1926

Messrs. Duprey & Macallister,
Mr. William Duprey,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge receipt of your
letter and petition with money-order, relative to
your dam at Little Alum Pond so-called in Brimfield.

We are taking up the matter of extending
the time for the necessary repairs and reconstruc-
tion of the dam with our Engineer, Mr. James L. Tighe,
and as soon as we hear from him, we will write you
relative to the matter.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/N

*copy of this letter sent to Mr. Her. Macallister
on Nov. 11, 1926*

November 9, 1926

Mr. James L. Tighe,
189 High Street,
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Mr. Tighe:

Enclosed herewith is copy of letter which is self-explanatory. Will you kindly let us know if in your opinion it would be proper to allow this work, of Duprey and Macallister, to wait over until next Spring?

Relative to the enclosed copy of letter from Eugene Bertrand, will you kindly send recommendations to the Commissioners regarding the matter. Mr. Cook thinks it might be wise for Mr. Bertrand to make an appointment with you to look over this dam.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____

C/N
2 Enc.

November 11, 1926

Mr. George Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing copies of correspondence between Mr. William Duprey and the County Commissioners relative to the dam owned by you and Mr. Duprey in Brimfield, Mass.

Also, enclosed herewith is an attested copy of the Commissioners' interlocutory decree which is self-explanatory.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

N.
Encs.

November 11, 1926

Duprey & Macallister,
Mr. William Duprey,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In regard to your inquiry of Nov. 5th our Engineer, Mr. James L. Tighe, reports that it will be satisfactory to make the necessary repairs and reconstruction of the dam next Spring. However, Mr. Tighe states that it is necessary for you to clean out the overflow, removing the rubbish etc., so there will be no danger when the spring floods come.

Enclosed herewith is an attested copy of the Commissioners' interlocutory decree which is self-explanatory.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/N
Enc.

*Copy of this letter sent to
Mr. Geo. Macallister on Nov. 11, 1926*

come down from heavy
rains or spring floods.

Whether we reconstruct the
dam or remove it - and
allow the pond to return
to its natural level, I
presume it will be necessary
to notify the fish & game commis-
sioners to look after their
screening -

Respecting your reply
I am yours truly

Geo - S Macallister

68 Edgewood St -

Hartford Conn -

May 23-27

To the Honorable Board of
County Commissioners
of Hampden County
Springfield, Mass -
Geo - S - Cook (Chairman)

Dear Sir - Last fall, in
accordance with your
instructions Mr. Sluprey and
myself removed the rubbish
etc. and cleaned out the
overflow at the head of Little
Alum Pond in Springfield, Mass

At that time, when by the
removal of rubbish etc, the water
went out in quite an

excessive amount, I noticed that the culverts under the road below the dam and below Mr. Slavenports house were not large enough or had become filled up to an extent that they did not carry off the increased amount of water, especially the one below Mr. Slavenports house where the water run over the road -

Now what I want to ask is in event of our removing this dam for repairs or otherwise who is responsible for what damage might occur, both by running over the road and flooding the meadows below?

I thought possibly these culverts came under the scope of your Hon. boards control and that by your orders the Town of Brimfield would put in a suitable size water course under the road to take care of the excessive amounts of water that would

May 25, 1927

Mr. George S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of May 23rd the County Commissioners inform you that the matter about which you wrote, does not in any way, it seems to us, concern the County Commissioners. We simply, in our decree, passed upon the sufficiency of the plan and specifications for the dam under the provision of the General Laws Chapter 253 Section 45 as amended, repealed and substituted by Acts of 1924 Chapter 178.

I should suppose that you take up the matter concerning this road with the Selectmen of Brimfield.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

E/N

July 10, 1929

Ernest M. Bellows,
Little Alum Pond,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In the matter of Little Alum Pond, the County Commissioners advise you that the matters you complain about are entirely outside of their jurisdiction.

In the matter of the petition of MacAllister & Duprey of long standing, the County Commissioners issued an interlocutory decree approving the plans and specifications that had been filed with them and approved by their Engineer, James L. Tighe. The Commissioners have no authority or power to compel MacAllister & Duprey or anyone else to build a dam as authorized in said decree, but if they do construct the dam, it must be in accordance with the plans and specifications. All the matters you complain of are matters of private controversy between the parties having interest around the pond or in the location of the dam.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

M/N

July 10, 1929

Mr. James L. Tighe came in at Commrs. request & the matter of the dam at Little Alum Pond in Brimfield was discussed. A Mr. Ernest Bellows & W.C. Danenport came in yesterday & said nothing is being done & that Macallister & Duprey have no legal claim on the dam & that a petition has been signed which will be sent to the Dept of Public Works asking that the withdrawal of water be stopped & that there be no interference by anyone claiming water rights etc. Mr. Tighe said that from certain evidence obtained at time of inspection it appears that this dam & pond do not belong to Duprey & Macallister (See Mr. Tighe's report) The original owners, as understood, were Newell & Bigby & the Sturbridge Woollen Mills had certain water rights there. After the matter was discussed a letter was written to Mr. Bellows advising him that the matters he complained of were outside the jurisdiction of the CC & that the CC had no authority to compel anyone to build a dam authorized in Int. Decree in the case of Macallister & Duprey but that if the dam was constructed it must be in accordance with the plans & specifications. (See letter)

July 10, 1929

(C O P Y)

Ernest M. Bellows,
Little Alum Pond,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In the matter of Little Alum Pond, the County Commissioners advise you that the matters you complain about are entirely outside of their jurisdiction.

In the matter of the petition of MacAllister & Duprey of long standing, the County Commissioners issued an interlocutory decree approving the plans and specifications that had been filed with them and approved by their Engineer, James L. Tighe. The Commissioners have no authority or power to compel MacAllister & Duprey or anyone else to build a dam as authorized in said decree, but if they do construct the dam, it must be in accordance with the plans and specifications. All the matters you complain of are matters of private controversy between the parties having interest around the pond or in the location of the dam.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

M/N



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works

State House, Boston,

July 15, 1929.

County Commissioners,
Hampden County,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

This Department has received complaints regarding the height of water in Little Alum Pond in the town of Brimfield.

In connection with this pond, it has been reported that the County Commissioners have issued instructions to the owner of the dam at the outlet of the pond to either repair or remove the same.

Will you please inform me just what instructions, if any, have been issued to the owner of this dam and the date and reasons for the same.

Any information you can furnish me in this respect will be appreciated as the Department is interested in this pond as it is apparently a great pond of the Commonwealth and comes under the control of this Department.

Very truly yours,

Francis L. Selker
District Waterways Engineer.

S/McC.



TOWN OF BRIMFIELD
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETINGS
EVERY MONDAY NIGHT

Little Alum Lake
Received in Hampden
County Comms' Office
on July 23, 1962.

County Commissioners,
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The Little Alum Lake Association has contacted the Board of Selectmen for permission to repair the dam at Little Alum Lake, and to put in a gate valve. Do you wish to inspect the dam? Mr. Thomas Magrath of the Board of Selectmen will be happy to assist, if you so desire.

Very truly yours,

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By

Juliane L. Spooner
Clerk

M:J

Copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer, on July 23, 1962.

July 24, 1929

Mr. Francis L. Sellew,
District Waterways Engineer,
Department of Public Works,
State House, Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Sellew:

We are in receipt of your letter of the 15th inst and in reply beg to say that the Commissioners made a trip to Little Alum Pond in the Town of Brimfield, and although our Counsel informs us that we have no authority to order this dam rebuilt, we feel the same should be rebuilt for the protection of the cottage owners. Whether or not this is a matter that can be taken care of by the State or whether it should be rebuilt by the cottage owners, we cannot say.

We would be very glad to co-operate with you in this matter and if you can give us any further information as to what can be done, we will be very glad to hear from you.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

M/W



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Works

State House, Boston.

July 26, 1929.

County Commissioners,
County of Hampden,
Springfield.

Gentlemen:-

*July 30, 1929 - Mr. Bray talked
with Mr. Sellow asking him
to write when he will send one
of his Engineers to apply to ~~the~~
confer with the Comm &
Mr. Dighe.*

Your letter of July 24th relative to Little Alum Pond, in the town of Brimfield, does not give me quite the information which I desire. I have been informed that the County Commissioners issued definite instructions to the owner of this dam to either reconstruct or remove the same on the ground that it was unsafe. I wish to verify this fact and obtain the name of the party to whom the order was sent. If no such order was given I would like to be informed to that effect.

It appears under the statutes that the County Commissioners may issue instructions to repair or remove a dam when in their opinion the structure is unsafe and the failure of the same is liable to endanger life or property. The statutes also provide that any dam at the outlet of a great pond which affects the height of water in the same shall not be built without license from this Department.

In the case of Little Alum Pond the dam was in all probability constructed prior to 1888 when the statute was first passed requiring a license from this Department as no license for the same has ever been granted. This matter of the height of water in Little Alum Pond is before the Department in the form of a petition to restrain the owner of the dam from demolishing the same and if the County Commissioners have issued an order requiring its demolition on the grounds that it was unsafe, this Department would of course not care to interfere.

Very truly yours,

Francis L. Sellow
District Waterways Engineer.

S M

Received Aug. 5, 1958

15 Farnsworth St.
Springfield, Mass.
August 4, 1958

Commissioners of Hampden County
37 Elm St. Springfield Mass.

Gentlemen; I wish to have you consider this letter as a formal protest against the actions of the Little Alum Lake Association who by the construction of a new dam on the lake shore have caused the normal high water level to be heightened to a new level which causes personal damages to my property and to several adjoining properties on our side of the lake.

I am of the opinion that their action in this matter is unauthorized and unfair. I respectfully request that the Commissioners or their engineers view the site and weigh the evidence that you find and I hope that some way can be worked out that will be agreeable to me and my neighboring abutters and also to the members of the said Lake Association.

I have hesitated in taking this action hoping that the whole undertaking would be of a temporary nature but I now feel that the writing of this letter is necessary for my and my abutters protection. Of course I will have to abide by your decision in this matter.

I will appreciate your acknowledgement of my request.

Respectfully
Yours
J. T. McDonald
Aug. 7-58

Respectfully Yours
Guy Lafluer

August 7, 1958

George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer,
Bowers & Pequot Streets,
Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is copy of letter received
from one Guy Lafleur which is self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,
HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

TFS/m
Encl.

August 13, 1958

Mr. Guy Lafluer,
15 Farnsworth Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 4, 1958 in regard to the construction of a new dam on the lake shore of Little Alum. We have referred the matter to our County Hydraulic Engineer, Mr. George H. McDonnell, for investigation and report. You will hear from us again in due course.

Very truly yours,

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____

RPW/N

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND, Inc.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991
GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
WASTE DISPOSAL

August 15, 1958

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the letter dated August 4, 1958 by Mr. Guy Lafleur to your Board pertaining to a complaint about the level of Little Alum Pond. Mr. Lafleur, according to his letter, enters a protest with your Board against the actions of the Little Alum Lake Association who by the construction of certain improvements on the Lake outlet have caused the normal high water level to be heightened to a new level which causes personal inconvenience and damage to Mr. Lafleur and his property.

Mr. Lafleur respectfully requested that an investigation be made of the situation and that some method be worked out wherein a water level in the pond will be maintained that will be satisfactory to all concerned. Mr. Lafleur points out in his letter that he has hesitated in writing about the matter thinking that the raised water level might be of a temporary nature but now he feels that the water level has been raised permanently.

On August 7, 1958, your Board submitted a copy of the letter from Mr. Lafleur for my investigation.

In my report on the condition of dams in the Town of Brimfield for the year 1957, said report being dated January 3, 1958, I quote from Item C, top of page 2:

"Conditions at this dam are satisfactory from a safety viewpoint. It appears as if the pond level may have been raised approximately 12" by the placing of field stone on the top of the existing stone spillway and then filling the opening between the stones with gravel. This change does not alter the safety of the structure in any way, and it is apparent that no damage to the dam can be done by this small increase in pond height. No complaints have been made by any land owner around the pond as the result of any possible raising of the pond level."

The letter written by Mr. Lafleur is the first indication of any complaint regarding the raised water level.

An inspection of Little Alum Pond Dam was made by the undersigned on Wednesday, August 13, 1958. At that time it was noted that the stones in the spillway have been concreted in place and that the spillway masonry now forms a permanent concrete-stone masonry wall 12" in height more or less above the level of the spillway notch that existed prior to 1957. By raising the level of the outlet with a permanent masonry wall, more water is now stored in the pond than prior to 1957.

Records available in my files indicate that Little Alum Pond has a surface area of 60 acres, more or less, and a drainage area of 3/4 of a square mile. The pond evidently was a natural body of water which was raised by the construction of a small dam. The height of the dam and the drainage area involved do not result in the structure coming under County jurisdiction in accordance with the Laws of the Commonwealth. However, the quantity of water stored by the permanent raising of the pond 1 ft. results in an increase of water storage of some 10 million gallons. On this basis, I would assume that the dam as altered would come under County jurisdiction and that plans and specifications of the new construction should be prepared, filed and approved. In preparing plans, the owners should provide adequate spillway capacity within the limits of the new construction to adequately handle anticipated extreme storm runoff.

A fish screen has been added to the outlet and this screen should be removed until an approved design is presented and a proper screen installed.


It is recommended that a communication be sent to the Little Alum Lake Association to provide plans and specifications of a proper spillway construction together with an acceptable fish screen device. The spillway as now existing is not dangerous, particularly if the screen is removed and the earth filled area to the left of the spillway protected from erosion that might occur during extreme flood flows.

I do not think the element of danger is sufficient to order the Association to immediately remove their new concrete masonry spillway. However, they should take immediate steps to submit an approved design and to carry thru the construction phase of the project. Such action is technically necessary in accordance with the requirements of the Law on dams.

In regard to the complaint of Mr. Lafleur, I do not see where your Board can require that the pond level be pulled down and restored under the power you have in accordance with Chapter 253 of the General Laws. At most, you could direct the Association to restore the pond level until an approved design is submitted and the design carried thru the construction phase. It would seem

advisable to check this matter with the County Attorney and then, if I am correct in the matter, notify Mr. Lafleur that you have no authority to regulate the pond level as long as a safe spillway is maintained at the dam.

Respectfully submitted,


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

Aug. 20, 1958

Mr. Guy Lafleur,
15 Farnsworth Street
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lafleur:

Reference is made to your letter of Aug. 4, 1958, pertaining to a complaint regarding the raising of the water level of Little Alum Lake by action of members of the Little Alum Lake Association. We have instructed the County Hydraulic Engineer to investigate the outlet at this Lake and to submit a report to our Commission regarding this matter. The County Engineer has made his investigation and reports that a permanent spillway has been constructed of stone and concrete. This masonry spillway, together with other work done at the site of the lake outlet has caused the water level of the lake to rise. Also, the County Hydraulic Engineer points out that a screen has been placed in front of the outlet.

The matter of the changed outlet will be taken up with the officials of the Little Alum Lake Association. According to the provisions of the Law, our Commission has the power to make certain that outlets of the type at Little Alum Lake are constructed in such a way as to be structurally and hydraulically sound. We do not have any control over problems related to water level caused by dam or spillway construction. As long as the dam or spillway itself is properly designed and is of a satisfactory nature, from a hydraulic and structural viewpoint, upstream water level problems do not come under County jurisdiction. Such problems would require civil action between the person making the complaint and the owner of the property resulting in the raised water level.

If the officials of the Little Alum Lake Association comply with the engineering requirements set forth by our Commission for the outlet as recommended by the Engineer, the Board of County Commissioners would have no legal authority to direct that the water level of the pond be permanently restored to its lower level. Any restoration to the lower level would be

of a temporary nature until such time as the owners of the outlet met the requirements set forth for safety purposes of the outlet construction.

Since the nature of the spillway is such that requirements for safety can be economically and quickly met, any lowering of the lake level to its original elevation would be but for a matter of a few days.

If you would care to discuss this matter with the Commission or our hydraulic engineer, we will be pleased to meet with you. Our Commission meets on Wednesdays and our engineer would be pleased to meet with you either then or at the site of your property on the lake.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William F. Stapleton

Ralph P. Walsh

Acting
Commissioner

Francis M. O'Keefe

August 20, 1958

Little Alum Lake Association
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Our County Hydraulic Engineer has inspected the outlet to Little Alum Lake, as the result of a complaint received by this Commission pertaining to the raising of the water level of the lake. Our Engineer reports that when last inspected prior to August 1958, the outlet of the lake had been changed by the installation of certain stone masonry chinked with gravel. At that time, in his report, the Engineer pointed out that the water level in the lake had been raised about 12-inches. The stone masonry work has apparently been in place since 1957. No complaint regarding the raising of the level of the lake had been received by the Engineer or this Commission until recently.

A re-inspection of the lake outlet showed that the stone work in the outlet has been concreted and has been made permanent in nature. Also, a type of fish screen has been installed in the water upstream of the spillway outlet.

In accordance with the Provisions of Chapt. 253, Sections 44 thru 50 inclusive, the construction of any dam or spillway comes within the jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners, if, the construction is on a drainage area of 1 mile or more in size; if the construction is 10 ft. high or higher; or if by the construction more than one million gallons of water is impounded.

The amount of water impounded by the raising of Little Alum Lake approximately 1 ft., exceeds one million gallons in quantity. Consequently, the changes made to the spillway come under Chapt. 253 of the General Laws and it is necessary that the construction be in accordance with the requirements for hydraulic and structural safety, as set up by the County Commissioners.

Plans and specifications must be prepared and filed with the County, prior to any construction that would impound more than one million gallons of water.

Since you have carried on construction without filing plans and specifications for approval, the construction, as existing, must be considered as unauthorized improvements to the outlet of Little Alum Lake.

It would be advisable for an official of your Association to contact the County Hydraulic Engineer, either thru this office or directly at his office in Holyoke, telephone JE-33991, for a discussion of the requirements to alter the construction as now existing so that it can be approved from a hydraulic and structural viewpoint. This action should be taken as soon as possible since the outlet, as now existing with a permanent masonry raised spillway, is not acceptable within the Provisions of Chapt. 253 of the General Laws.

Very truly yours

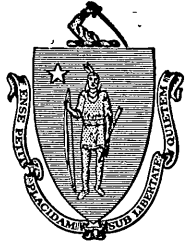
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William F. Stapleton

Ralph P. Walsh

Acting

Commissioner Francis M. O'Keefe



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Senate

State House . Boston

July 12, 1962

County Commissioners of Hampden
Court House
Springfield, Massachusetts

Atten: Thomas F. Sullivan, Chairman

Gentlemen:

The summer residents surrounding Little Alum Pond, in Brimfield, have requested that I find out who is responsible for the rebuilding of the dam at this pond.

Would you kindly send me any information in regard to this matter for transmittal to them.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul H. Benoit".

Paul H. Benoit
Senator

Worcester-Hampden District

PHB:c1

Copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell on
July 18, 1962.

GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN
EDWARD J. BAYON

TIGHE & BOND

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

July 24, 1962

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
37 Elm Street
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

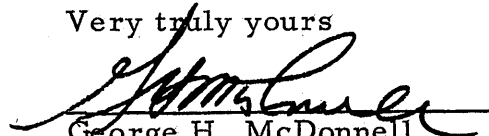
Enclosed please find a letter addressed to Senator Benoit, at the State House, in answer to his letter to your Board of July 12, 1962. If you concur in the contents of the letter, it should be forwarded to the Senator.

Also enclosed is a communication to the Selectmen of the Town of Brimfield, in regard to their letter of July 23, 1962, pertaining to a request of the Little Alum Lake Association to make changes at the dam.

If you agree with the contents of this communication, it could be signed and forwarded.

I have recently inspected the dam at Little Alum Lake and found it to be in about the same condition as noted in previous years. Water washing over the paved section of the spillway has caused some erosion at the downstream toe of the small masonry section but this condition is not serious as of the present time. Some masonry repair work will be required in the not too distant future.

Very truly yours


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb
encs.

July 25, 1962

Hon. Paul H. Benoit, Senator
Worcester-Hampden District
Massachusetts Senate
State House
Boston, Mass.

Dear Senator Benoit:

In regard to your letter of July 12, 1962, requesting information in regard to persons responsible for the dam at Little Alum Pond, in Brimfield, our records indicate that maintenance of the dam has been in the hands of the Little Alum Lake Association.

We have recently received a communication from the Town of Brimfield, stating that the Little Alum Lake Association has requested permission to make certain changes at the dam.

In the past, a Mr. William T. Watt, of 812 Monsanto Ave., Indian Orchard, Mass., contacted the County regarding the spillway and dam. He apparently is a member of the Association and may still be active in its operation.

If any other information is desired, please call or write our Board.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 25, 1962

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In reference to the communication from your Board, dated July 23, 1962, pertaining to the dam at Little Alum Lake, changes can be made to the dam but plans and specifications of the proposed changes should be filed with our Board, if the changes could have a bearing on the safety of the dam.

The County Hydraulic Engineer, Mr. George H. McDonnell, of Holyoke, inspected the dam recently and noted that the structure is in the same general condition as found in recent years but, that some erosion has taken place at the downstream toe of the paved masonry spillway section.

We have instructed Mr. McDonnell to contact your Board and arrange for a conference at the dam, relative to the proposed work. At that time, he can advise you as to whether or not the work as contemplated will require plans and specifications.

If you wish any further information in connection with the matter, please call or write our Board.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

COPY

July 27, 1962

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Town of Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The undersigned, as County Hydraulic Engineer, has received a copy of your letter dated July 23, 1962, sent to the County Commissioners of Hampden County, regarding proposed changes to the dam at Little Alum Lake. The County Commissioners have directed that I contact your Board and assist you, as well as advise you, in connection with engineering and hydraulic matters pertaining to the dam.

I would be pleased to meet you at the site of the dam at a day and time convenient to your Board and to representatives of the Little Alum Lake Association. If you will please suggest a day and hour, I will arrange my schedule, if possible, to meet with you. Please write me at the above address or call me in Holyoke at JE 3-3991. If I should be out of the office when you call, leave a message with the secretary as to the desired time for the conference in the field. I will return your call and confirm the time or suggest an alternate, if there is a conflict with my schedule.

Very truly yours

GHM/cmb

George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

COPY

June 5, 1963

Little Alum Lake Association, Inc.,
Little Alum Lake
Brimfield, Mass.

Att: Mr. W. L. Henderson

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapt. 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the dam on Little Alum Lake has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

" This dam was found to be in good condition when checked. The new spillway and pond outlet has been built in accordance with the approved plans and specifications filed last year. The fish screen, located a few inches upstream of the stop-plank has a top elevation higher than that called for on the approved drawing. The drawing as filed shows the top of the fish screen at the same elevation as the top of the stoplogs. However, the screen extends upwards to the top of the concrete. Should the entire surface of the screen become plugged with debris, water would overflow the entire length of the small concrete structure and wash onto the soil of the abutment areas. This condition may result in damage to the channel paved with riprap. The screen should be reduced in elevation as called for on the approved drawings or the abutment areas raised with masonry to confine any overflow to the masonry portion of the structure and to the main channel paved with riprap. The riprap channel is in need of repair just upstream of the roadway culvert.

At the time of inspection, the water level in storage in the pond was down about 6", more or less, from the top of the stoplogs."

2.

If any further information is desired in connection with this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**LITTLE ALUM LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.
BRIMFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

June 15, 1963

Board of County Commissioners
37 Elm Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of June 5th regarding inspection of the dam at Little Alum Lake.

The fish screen was originally installed according to plan with the same top elevation as the stoplogs. However, last fall several rainbow trout were noticed in the culvert beneath Little Alum Road. It was finally resolved that these fish were coming over the spillway and this condition would possibly jeopardize the State stocking program at this lake unless something was done about it. Therefore, we raised the fish screen six inches to the top of the structure and at the same time appointed two permanent residents on the lake, both retired, to inspect the dam site daily and keep it free from any debris when water is flowing over the stoplogs. Periodic inspection will ascertain this is being done to the satisfaction of all concerned. This screen will be removed completely when the water level is below the top of the stoplogs.

We are certainly aware that safety of the structure is of number one importance, but hope to keep peace between the County Commissioners and the Division of Fisheries and Game if possible without going to the added expense of raising the structure.

The riprap channel downstream will be repaired within the next few weeks.

We would be interested in knowing if this agreement meets with your approval.

Very truly yours,

LITTLE ALUM LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Wilson L. Henderson

WLH-o

March 24, 1926

Mr. William Duprey,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"It is recommended that the dam be repaired or the spillway be lowered until the pond is returned to its natural height."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Page 10 of report

Mr. Macallister

William Duprey,

East Brimfield, Mass.

George McAllister

68 Edgewood St.

Hartford Conn.

you are notified that your dam,
located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so called
in the Town of Brimfield, etc.

"It is recommended that the dam be
repaired or the spillway be lowered until
the pond is returned to its natural height."

Now, therefore, etc.

March 24, 1926

Mr. George McAllister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"It is recommended that the dam be repaired or the spillway be lowered until the pond is returned to its natural height."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Hartford Conn.

Apr 5-26

County Commissioners
Springfield Mass.

Dear Sirs - In regard to
the repairs to dam at
Blue Pond, Brimfield -
I will say, upon a
recent inspection I noticed
the water was unusually
high but was unable
to locate any trace of
bounds or high water mark

Can you furnish
me with specific
bounds that would
return the pond to
its natural level or
height, If so I
will see that your
recommendations are carried
out as soon as
possible

Yours truly

G. S. Macallister

68 Edgewood St.

April 9, 1926

Mr. G. S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 5, 1926, regarding your dam at Alum Pond in Brimfield.

We have referred same to our Engineer and upon receipt of word from him, we will advise you in regard to the matter.

Yours truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____ Chairman.

c/n

April 9, 1926

Mr. James L. Tighe,
189 High Street,
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Mr. Tighe:

Enclosed herewith is copy of a
letter from Mr. G. S. Macallister which is self-
explanatory.

Kindly advise us in regard to
this.

Yours truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/N

JAMES L. TIGHE

MEMBER
AM. SOC. C. E.
INST. C. E. GREAT BRITAIN
ENG. INST. OF CANADA

CONSULTING ENGINEER
CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 189 HIGH STREET
HOLYOKE, MASS.
TELEPHONE 790

MEMBER
BOSTON SOC. C. E.
ENG. SOC. WEST. MASS.
AM. & N. E. W. W. ASSOC'S

MEMBER AM. INST. OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
ANALYSIS OF WATER

WATER POWER INVESTIGATIONS
AND DEVELOPMENT
DAMS AND POWER INSTALLATIONS
ESTIMATES AND APPRAISALS

Holyoke, Mass.

April 10, 1926.

The Honorable The Board of Hampden County Commissioners,

George S. Cook, Chairman,

Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter with enclosure relative to the dam across the outlet of Little Alum Pond in Brimfield and beg to state in answer thereto that the pond will return to its natural level or state if the dam is removed.

Inasmuch, as it appears from his letter, the owner, Mr. G. S. Macallister, does not contemplate the making of any repairs on the structure, the thing for him to do ^{then} is to remove the dam and thus cause the pond to return to its natural height.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Tighe

April 28, 1926

Mr. G. S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

In regard to your dam at Alum Pond in
Brimfield, we are enclosing herewith copy of recommen-
dations from our Engineer, Mr. James L. Tighe, in reply
to your letter of April 5, 1926.

The County Commissioners expect that you
will conform with the law and act in accordance with the
recommendations submitted by Mr. Tighe.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N
Enc.

Hartford, Conn,
May 27-26

County Commissioner
Springfield, Mass

Dear Sirs - In regard
to the dam at Little
Alum Pond mentioned
in your recent letter
I will say, the other
owner and my self have
had contractors look over
the job of repairing and
as soon as the high water

grows down we contemplate
putting in a more substantial
dam.

I fail to see where
your engineer got the
idea that I did not
intend to repair it -
as I have contemplated
it for several years

Yours Truly

Geo. S. Macallister

68 Edgewood St

June 2, 1926

Mr. Geo. S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter of
May 27th and note that you expect to repair your dam
in the very near future.

Kindly notify us just as soon as the
repairs are completed so we can have our Engineer in-
spect same.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

June 22, 1926

Mr. W. G. Curry of 27 Bevier St. Springfield.

Mr. Martin Flynn of 26 Orchard St. Chicopee

want water maintained ^{at} the same level
because they own about 15 summer
cottages & they don't want to be damaged
in case anything happened to the dam.

Mr. Cook to write a letter to Mr. Macallister

Alum Pond in Brimfield.

East Brimfield Mass.
Oct 19. 1926

Mr Cook Chairman County Com
Springfield Mass.

Dear Sir: I am writing
you to inquire if you can
give me any information
regarding the real owners
of the water rights to the
Little Alum Pond in Brimfield

The cottage owners are
much interested in having
the water kept up and they
are willing to stand the
expense of building a new
dam but are unable to
obtain the proper authority

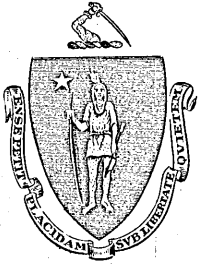
I have talked with Messrs
Dupuy and Macallister who
claim to hold some rights
and they both tell me that
they will not invest any money
in repairs to the dam as it
would be no benefit to them

but are unwilling to give anyone authority to make the repairs. I shall be glad to cooperate with you in any way possible to have the dam repaired either to furnishing references to the records or in locating the old bounds referred to in the records. I believe you can appreciate the unhealthy condition which would be caused by lowering the pond aside from the damage to property of the cottage owners. Also damage to the breeding ground of the fish. I would also like to inquire if it would be legal to draw down a stocked pond without authority from the Fish and Game Com. The State has this day stocked the pond with good fish. I hope have not already done so I

would refer you to the
deed given by John Bixby and
Ell. Newell as recorded in
Hamp. Co. Reg. March 25-1839
Book 108 Page 15

I am anxious to have the
water kept up but am unable
to know who can give the
proper authority and thought
you might be able to give
some information -

Yours very truly
W.C. Davenport.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Hampden

Springfield, Mass.

October 19, 1926

Office of the
County Commissioners

George S. Cook
Chairman

~~Daniel O'Neil~~
John Hall

(C O P Y)

Mr. J. A. Christenson, Engineer,
Southbridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Relative to the approval of plan and specifications for the reconstruction and repairs of dam owned by Messrs. Dupre and McAllister, located on the outlet of Little Alum Pond so-called in Brimfield, Mass., before same can be approved by the County Commissioners, a petition will have to be entered, and we are enclosing one for Messrs. Dupre and McAllister to sign.

Under the law, a fee of \$3.00 must be paid to enter the petition, and when this is done the County Commissioners will approve the plan and specifications and make an interlocutory decree so the work can proceed.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By George S. Cook
Chairman.
N.

C/N

Please read over

East Brimfield Mass.

Nov. 5 1926

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners
For the County of Hampden

Springfield Mass

Dear Sir,

Copy of this
letter sent
to Mr. Sec.
Macallister
on Nov. 11, 1926

Please find enclosed money order for ^{\$}3.00
To enter the Petition to be approved by County
Commissioners,

But as its so late in the season and the
cottage owners are willing to help us to
pay expenses to rebuild the Dam We
would like to ask your Honorable board
to extend the time until Spring. Then
it would be easier for us, and we
would be able to get the Cottage owners
all together and see if it would be
satisfactory to all. In the mean time
If you think there is any danger we can
lower the water or reinforce the old
dam - for the winter. Your very truly

Duprey + Macallister

Per Wm. Duprey.

October 25, 1926

Mr. W. C. Davenport,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of October 19th received and the writer notes carefully what you say relative to Little Alum Pond in Brimfield.

Recently Duprey and Macallister through their Engineer, J. A. Christenson of Southbridge, Mass., submitted plan and specifications for the reconstruction of the dam at Little Alum Pond. We referred these specifications and plan to our Engineer, James L. Tighe of Holyoke, Mass., and they are to be improved with some slight changes.

It is the writer's impression that Duprey and Macallister are planning on repairing this dam and I do not think you will have anything to worry about relative to this matter.

The County Commissioners do not know the real owners of the water rights to Little Alum Pond but the best records available we have received from our Engineer are that Duprey and Macallister are responsible and for that reason we took the matter up with them.

What the County Commissioners are really interested in is to have the dam repaired so there will be no danger of the water ever going out in flood time causing a possible loss of life, or property damage.

Hoping this gives you the information desired,
I am

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

November 9, 1926

Messrs. Duprey & Macallister,
Mr. William Duprey,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge receipt of your
letter and petition with money-order, relative to
your dam at Little Alum Pond so-called in Brimfield.

We are taking up the matter of extending
the time for the necessary repairs and reconstruc-
tion of the dam with our Engineer, Mr. James L. Tighe,
and as soon as we hear from him, we will write you
relative to the matter.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/N

*copy of this letter sent to Mr. Her. Macallister
on Nov. 11, 1926*

November 9, 1926

Mr. James L. Tighe,
189 High Street,
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Mr. Tighe:

Enclosed herewith is copy of letter which is self-explanatory. Will you kindly let us know if in your opinion it would be proper to allow this work, of Duprey and Macallister, to wait over until next Spring?

Relative to the enclosed copy of letter from Eugene Bertrand, will you kindly send recommendations to the Commissioners regarding the matter. Mr. Cook thinks it might be wise for Mr. Bertrand to make an appointment with you to look over this dam.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____

C/N
2 Enc.

November 11, 1926

Mr. George Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing copies of correspondence between Mr. William Duprey and the County Commissioners relative to the dam owned by you and Mr. Duprey in Brimfield, Mass.

Also, enclosed herewith is an attested copy of the Commissioners' interlocutory decree which is self-explanatory.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

N.
Encs.

November 11, 1926

Duprey & Macallister,
Mr. William Duprey,
East Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In regard to your inquiry of Nov. 5th our Engineer, Mr. James L. Tighe, reports that it will be satisfactory to make the necessary repairs and reconstruction of the dam next Spring. However, Mr. Tighe states that it is necessary for you to clean out the overflow, removing the rubbish etc., so there will be no danger when the spring floods come.

Enclosed herewith is an attested copy of the Commissioners' interlocutory decree which is self-explanatory.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/N
Enc.

*Copy of this letter sent to
Mr. Geo. Macallister on Nov. 11, 1926*

come down from heavy
rains or spring floods.

Whether we reconstruct the
dam or remove it - and
allow the pond to return
to its natural level, I
presume it will be necessary
to notify the fish & game commis-
sioners to look after their
screening -

Respecting your reply
I am yours truly

Geo - S Macallister

68 Edgewood St -

Hartford Conn -

May 23-27

To the Honorable Board of
County Commissioners
of Hampden County
Springfield, Mass -
Geo - S - Cook (Chairman)

Dear Sir - Last fall, in
accordance with your
instructions Mr. Sluprey and
myself removed the rubbish
etc. and cleaned out the
overflow at the head of Little
Alum Pond in Springfield, Mass

At that time, when by the
removal of rubbish etc, the water
went out in quite an

excessive amount, I noticed that the culverts under the road below the dam and below Mr. Slavenports house were not large enough or had become filled up to an extent that they did not carry off the increased amount of water, especially the one below Mr. Slavenports house where the water run over the road -

Now what I want to ask is in event of our removing this dam for repairs or otherwise who is responsible for what damage might occur, both by running over the road and flooding the meadows below!

I thought possibly these culverts came under the scope of your Hon. boards control and that by your orders the Town of Brimfield would put in a suitable size water course under the road to take care of the excessive amounts of water that would

May 25, 1927

Mr. George S. Macallister,
68 Edgewood Street,
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of May 23rd the County Commissioners inform you that the matter about which you wrote, does not in any way, it seems to us, concern the County Commissioners. We simply, in our decree, passed upon the sufficiency of the plan and specifications for the dam under the provision of the General Laws Chapter 253 Section 45 as amended, repealed and substituted by Acts of 1924 Chapter 178.

I should suppose that you take up the matter concerning this road with the Selectmen of Brimfield.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

E/N

July 10, 1929

Ernest M. Bellows,
Little Alum Pond,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In the matter of Little Alum Pond, the County Commissioners advise you that the matters you complain about are entirely outside of their jurisdiction.

In the matter of the petition of MacAllister & Duprey of long standing, the County Commissioners issued an interlocutory decree approving the plans and specifications that had been filed with them and approved by their Engineer, James L. Tighe. The Commissioners have no authority or power to compel MacAllister & Duprey or anyone else to build a dam as authorized in said decree, but if they do construct the dam, it must be in accordance with the plans and specifications. All the matters you complain of are matters of private controversy between the parties having interest around the pond or in the location of the dam.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

M/N

July 10, 1929

Mr. James L. Tighe came in at Commrs. request & the matter of the dam at Little Alum Pond in Brimfield was discussed. A Mr. Ernest Bellows & W.C. Danenport came in yesterday & said nothing is being done & that Macallister & Duprey have no legal claim on the dam & that a petition has been signed which will be sent to the Dept of Public Works asking that the withdrawal of water be stopped & that there be no interference by anyone claiming water rights etc. Mr. Tighe said that from certain evidence obtained at time of inspection it appears that this dam & pond do not belong to Duprey & Macallister (See Mr. Tighe's report) The original owners, as understood, were Newell & Bigby & the Sturbridge Woollen Mills had certain water rights there. After the matter was discussed a letter was written to Mr. Bellows advising him that the matters he complained of were outside the jurisdiction of the CC & that the CC had no authority to compel anyone to build a dam authorized in Int. Decree in the case of Macallister & Duprey but that if the dam was constructed it must be in accordance with the plans & specifications. (See letter)

July 10, 1929

(C O P Y)

Ernest M. Bellows,
Little Alum Pond,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In the matter of Little Alum Pond, the County Commissioners advise you that the matters you complain about are entirely outside of their jurisdiction.

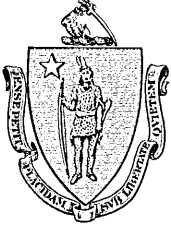
In the matter of the petition of MacAllister & Duprey of long standing, the County Commissioners issued an interlocutory decree approving the plans and specifications that had been filed with them and approved by their Engineer, James L. Tighe. The Commissioners have no authority or power to compel MacAllister & Duprey or anyone else to build a dam as authorized in said decree, but if they do construct the dam, it must be in accordance with the plans and specifications. All the matters you complain of are matters of private controversy between the parties having interest around the pond or in the location of the dam.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

M/N



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works

State House, Boston,

July 15, 1929.

County Commissioners,
Hampden County,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

This Department has received complaints regarding the height of water in Little Alum Pond in the town of Brimfield.

In connection with this pond, it has been reported that the County Commissioners have issued instructions to the owner of the dam at the outlet of the pond to either repair or remove the same.

Will you please inform me just what instructions, if any, have been issued to the owner of this dam and the date and reasons for the same.

Any information you can furnish me in this respect will be appreciated as the Department is interested in this pond as it is apparently a great pond of the Commonwealth and comes under the control of this Department.

Very truly yours,

Francis L. Selker
District Waterways Engineer.

S/McC.



TOWN OF BRIMFIELD
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETINGS
EVERY MONDAY NIGHT

Little Alum Lake
Received in Hampden
County Comms' Office
on July 23, 1962.

County Commissioners,
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The Little Alum Lake Association has contacted the Board of Selectmen for permission to repair the dam at Little Alum Lake, and to put in a gate valve. Do you wish to inspect the dam? Mr. Thomas Magrath of the Board of Selectmen will be happy to assist, if you so desire.

Very truly yours,

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By

Juliane L. Spooner
Clerk

M:J

Copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer, on July 23, 1962.

July 24, 1929

Mr. Francis L. Sellew,
District Waterways Engineer,
Department of Public Works,
State House, Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Sellew:

We are in receipt of your letter of the 15th inst and in reply beg to say that the Commissioners made a trip to Little Alum Pond in the Town of Brimfield, and although our Counsel informs us that we have no authority to order this dam rebuilt, we feel the same should be rebuilt for the protection of the cottage owners. Whether or not this is a matter that can be taken care of by the State or whether it should be rebuilt by the cottage owners, we cannot say.

We would be very glad to co-operate with you in this matter and if you can give us any further information as to what can be done, we will be very glad to hear from you.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

M/W



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Works

State House, Boston.

July 26, 1929.

County Commissioners,
County of Hampden,
Springfield.

Gentlemen:-

*July 30, 1929 - Mr. Bray talked
with Mr. Sellow asking him
to write when he will send one
of his Engineers to apply to ~~the~~
confer with the Comm &
Mr. Dighe.*

Your letter of July 24th relative to Little Alum Pond, in the town of Brimfield, does not give me quite the information which I desire. I have been informed that the County Commissioners issued definite instructions to the owner of this dam to either reconstruct or remove the same on the ground that it was unsafe. I wish to verify this fact and obtain the name of the party to whom the order was sent. If no such order was given I would like to be informed to that effect.

It appears under the statutes that the County Commissioners may issue instructions to repair or remove a dam when in their opinion the structure is unsafe and the failure of the same is liable to endanger life or property. The statutes also provide that any dam at the outlet of a great pond which affects the height of water in the same shall not be built without license from this Department.

In the case of Little Alum Pond the dam was in all probability constructed prior to 1888 when the statute was first passed requiring a license from this Department as no license for the same has ever been granted. This matter of the height of water in Little Alum Pond is before the Department in the form of a petition to restrain the owner of the dam from demolishing the same and if the County Commissioners have issued an order requiring its demolition on the grounds that it was unsafe, this Department would of course not care to interfere.

Very truly yours,

Francis L. Sellow
District Waterways Engineer.

S M

Received Aug. 5, 1958

15 Farnsworth St.
Springfield, Mass.
August 4, 1958

Commissioners of Hampden County
37 Elm St. Springfield Mass.

Gentlemen; I wish to have you consider this letter as a formal protest against the actions of the Little Alum Lake Association who by the construction of a new dam on the lake shore have caused the normal high water level to be heightened to a new level which causes personal damages to my property and to several adjoining properties on our side of the lake.

I am of the opinion that their action in this matter is unauthorized and unfair. I respectfully request that the Commissioners or their engineers view the site and weigh the evidence that you find and I hope that some way can be worked out that will be agreeable to me and my neighboring abutters and also to the members of the said Lake Association.

I have hesitated in taking this action hoping that the whole undertaking would be of a temporary nature but I now feel that the writing of this letter is necessary for my and my abutters protection. Of course I will have to abide by your decision in this matter.

I will appreciate your acknowledgement of my request.

Respectfully
Yours
J. T. McDonald
Aug. 7-58

Respectfully Yours
Guy Lafluer

August 7, 1958

George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer,
Bowers & Pequot Streets,
Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is copy of letter received
from one Guy Lafleur which is self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,
HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

TFS/m
Encl.

August 13, 1958

Mr. Guy Lafluer,
15 Farnsworth Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 4, 1958 in regard to the construction of a new dam on the lake shore of Little Alum. We have referred the matter to our County Hydraulic Engineer, Mr. George H. McDonnell, for investigation and report. You will hear from us again in due course.

Very truly yours,

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____

RPW/N

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND, Inc.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991
GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
WASTE DISPOSAL

August 15, 1958

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the letter dated August 4, 1958 by Mr. Guy Lafleur to your Board pertaining to a complaint about the level of Little Alum Pond. Mr. Lafleur, according to his letter, enters a protest with your Board against the actions of the Little Alum Lake Association who by the construction of certain improvements on the Lake outlet have caused the normal high water level to be heightened to a new level which causes personal inconvenience and damage to Mr. Lafleur and his property.

Mr. Lafleur respectfully requested that an investigation be made of the situation and that some method be worked out wherein a water level in the pond will be maintained that will be satisfactory to all concerned. Mr. Lafleur points out in his letter that he has hesitated in writing about the matter thinking that the raised water level might be of a temporary nature but now he feels that the water level has been raised permanently.

On August 7, 1958, your Board submitted a copy of the letter from Mr. Lafleur for my investigation.

In my report on the condition of dams in the Town of Brimfield for the year 1957, said report being dated January 3, 1958, I quote from Item C, top of page 2:

"Conditions at this dam are satisfactory from a safety viewpoint. It appears as if the pond level may have been raised approximately 12" by the placing of field stone on the top of the existing stone spillway and then filling the opening between the stones with gravel. This change does not alter the safety of the structure in any way, and it is apparent that no damage to the dam can be done by this small increase in pond height. No complaints have been made by any land owner around the pond as the result of any possible raising of the pond level."

The letter written by Mr. Lafleur is the first indication of any complaint regarding the raised water level.

An inspection of Little Alum Pond Dam was made by the undersigned on Wednesday, August 13, 1958. At that time it was noted that the stones in the spillway have been concreted in place and that the spillway masonry now forms a permanent concrete-stone masonry wall 12" in height more or less above the level of the spillway notch that existed prior to 1957. By raising the level of the outlet with a permanent masonry wall, more water is now stored in the pond than prior to 1957.

Records available in my files indicate that Little Alum Pond has a surface area of 60 acres, more or less, and a drainage area of 3/4 of a square mile. The pond evidently was a natural body of water which was raised by the construction of a small dam. The height of the dam and the drainage area involved do not result in the structure coming under County jurisdiction in accordance with the Laws of the Commonwealth. However, the quantity of water stored by the permanent raising of the pond 1 ft. results in an increase of water storage of some 10 million gallons. On this basis, I would assume that the dam as altered would come under County jurisdiction and that plans and specifications of the new construction should be prepared, filed and approved. In preparing plans, the owners should provide adequate spillway capacity within the limits of the new construction to adequately handle anticipated extreme storm runoff.

A fish screen has been added to the outlet and this screen should be removed until an approved design is presented and a proper screen installed.


It is recommended that a communication be sent to the Little Alum Lake Association to provide plans and specifications of a proper spillway construction together with an acceptable fish screen device. The spillway as now existing is not dangerous, particularly if the screen is removed and the earth filled area to the left of the spillway protected from erosion that might occur during extreme flood flows.

I do not think the element of danger is sufficient to order the Association to immediately remove their new concrete masonry spillway. However, they should take immediate steps to submit an approved design and to carry thru the construction phase of the project. Such action is technically necessary in accordance with the requirements of the Law on dams.

In regard to the complaint of Mr. Lafleur, I do not see where your Board can require that the pond level be pulled down and restored under the power you have in accordance with Chapter 253 of the General Laws. At most, you could direct the Association to restore the pond level until an approved design is submitted and the design carried thru the construction phase. It would seem

advisable to check this matter with the County Attorney and then, if I am correct in the matter, notify Mr. Lafleur that you have no authority to regulate the pond level as long as a safe spillway is maintained at the dam.

Respectfully submitted,


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

Aug. 20, 1958

Mr. Guy Lafleur,
15 Farnsworth Street
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lafleur:

Reference is made to your letter of Aug. 4, 1958, pertaining to a complaint regarding the raising of the water level of Little Alum Lake by action of members of the Little Alum Lake Association. We have instructed the County Hydraulic Engineer to investigate the outlet at this Lake and to submit a report to our Commission regarding this matter. The County Engineer has made his investigation and reports that a permanent spillway has been constructed of stone and concrete. This masonry spillway, together with other work done at the site of the lake outlet has caused the water level of the lake to rise. Also, the County Hydraulic Engineer points out that a screen has been placed in front of the outlet.

The matter of the changed outlet will be taken up with the officials of the Little Alum Lake Association. According to the provisions of the Law, our Commission has the power to make certain that outlets of the type at Little Alum Lake are constructed in such a way as to be structurally and hydraulically sound. We do not have any control over problems related to water level caused by dam or spillway construction. As long as the dam or spillway itself is properly designed and is of a satisfactory nature, from a hydraulic and structural viewpoint, upstream water level problems do not come under County jurisdiction. Such problems would require civil action between the person making the complaint and the owner of the property resulting in the raised water level.

If the officials of the Little Alum Lake Association comply with the engineering requirements set forth by our Commission for the outlet as recommended by the Engineer, the Board of County Commissioners would have no legal authority to direct that the water level of the pond be permanently restored to its lower level. Any restoration to the lower level would be

of a temporary nature until such time as the owners of the outlet met the requirements set forth for safety purposes of the outlet construction.

Since the nature of the spillway is such that requirements for safety can be economically and quickly met, any lowering of the lake level to its original elevation would be but for a matter of a few days.

If you would care to discuss this matter with the Commission or our hydraulic engineer, we will be pleased to meet with you. Our Commission meets on Wednesdays and our engineer would be pleased to meet with you either then or at the site of your property on the lake.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William F. Stapleton

Ralph P. Walsh

Acting
Commissioner

Francis M. O'Keefe

August 20, 1958

Little Alum Lake Association
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Our County Hydraulic Engineer has inspected the outlet to Little Alum Lake, as the result of a complaint received by this Commission pertaining to the raising of the water level of the lake. Our Engineer reports that when last inspected prior to August 1958, the outlet of the lake had been changed by the installation of certain stone masonry chinked with gravel. At that time, in his report, the Engineer pointed out that the water level in the lake had been raised about 12-inches. The stone masonry work has apparently been in place since 1957. No complaint regarding the raising of the level of the lake had been received by the Engineer or this Commission until recently.

A re-inspection of the lake outlet showed that the stone work in the outlet has been concreted and has been made permanent in nature. Also, a type of fish screen has been installed in the water upstream of the spillway outlet.

In accordance with the Provisions of Chapt. 253, Sections 44 thru 50 inclusive, the construction of any dam or spillway comes within the jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners, if, the construction is on a drainage area of 1 mile or more in size; if the construction is 10 ft. high or higher; or if by the construction more than one million gallons of water is impounded.

The amount of water impounded by the raising of Little Alum Lake approximately 1 ft., exceeds one million gallons in quantity. Consequently, the changes made to the spillway come under Chapt. 253 of the General Laws and it is necessary that the construction be in accordance with the requirements for hydraulic and structural safety, as set up by the County Commissioners.

Plans and specifications must be prepared and filed with the County, prior to any construction that would impound more than one million gallons of water.

Since you have carried on construction without filing plans and specifications for approval, the construction, as existing, must be considered as unauthorized improvements to the outlet of Little Alum Lake.

It would be advisable for an official of your Association to contact the County Hydraulic Engineer, either thru this office or directly at his office in Holyoke, telephone JE-33991, for a discussion of the requirements to alter the construction as now existing so that it can be approved from a hydraulic and structural viewpoint. This action should be taken as soon as possible since the outlet, as now existing with a permanent masonry raised spillway, is not acceptable within the Provisions of Chapt. 253 of the General Laws.

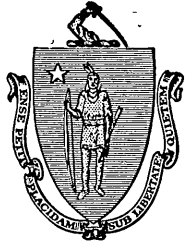
Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William F. Stapleton

Ralph P. Walsh

Acting
Commissioner Francis M. O'Keefe



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Senate

State House . Boston

July 12, 1962

County Commissioners of Hampden
Court House
Springfield, Massachusetts

Atten: Thomas F. Sullivan, Chairman

Gentlemen:

The summer residents surrounding Little Alum Pond, in Brimfield, have requested that I find out who is responsible for the rebuilding of the dam at this pond.

Would you kindly send me any information in regard to this matter for transmittal to them.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul H. Benoit".

Paul H. Benoit
Senator

Worcester-Hampden District

PHB:c1

Copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell on
July 18, 1962.

GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN
EDWARD J. BAYON

TIGHE & BOND

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

July 24, 1962

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
37 Elm Street
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

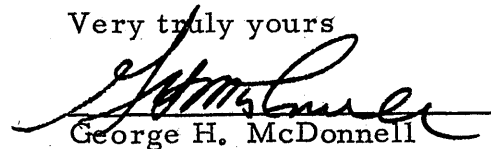
Enclosed please find a letter addressed to Senator Benoit, at the State House, in answer to his letter to your Board of July 12, 1962. If you concur in the contents of the letter, it should be forwarded to the Senator.

Also enclosed is a communication to the Selectmen of the Town of Brimfield, in regard to their letter of July 23, 1962, pertaining to a request of the Little Alum Lake Association to make changes at the dam.

If you agree with the contents of this communication, it could be signed and forwarded.

I have recently inspected the dam at Little Alum Lake and found it to be in about the same condition as noted in previous years. Water washing over the paved section of the spillway has caused some erosion at the downstream toe of the small masonry section but this condition is not serious as of the present time. Some masonry repair work will be required in the not too distant future.

Very truly yours


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb
encs.

July 25, 1962

Hon. Paul H. Benoit, Senator
Worcester-Hampden District
Massachusetts Senate
State House
Boston, Mass.

Dear Senator Benoit:

In regard to your letter of July 12, 1962, requesting information in regard to persons responsible for the dam at Little Alum Pond, in Brimfield, our records indicate that maintenance of the dam has been in the hands of the Little Alum Lake Association.

We have recently received a communication from the Town of Brimfield, stating that the Little Alum Lake Association has requested permission to make certain changes at the dam.

In the past, a Mr. William T. Watt, of 812 Monsanto Ave., Indian Orchard, Mass., contacted the County regarding the spillway and dam. He apparently is a member of the Association and may still be active in its operation.

If any other information is desired, please call or write our Board.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 25, 1962

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In reference to the communication from your Board, dated July 23, 1962, pertaining to the dam at Little Alum Lake, changes can be made to the dam but plans and specifications of the proposed changes should be filed with our Board, if the changes could have a bearing on the safety of the dam.

The County Hydraulic Engineer, Mr. George H. McDonnell, of Holyoke, inspected the dam recently and noted that the structure is in the same general condition as found in recent years but, that some erosion has taken place at the downstream toe of the paved masonry spillway section.

We have instructed Mr. McDonnell to contact your Board and arrange for a conference at the dam, relative to the proposed work. At that time, he can advise you as to whether or not the work as contemplated will require plans and specifications.

If you wish any further information in connection with the matter, please call or write our Board.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

COPY

July 27, 1962

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Town of Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The undersigned, as County Hydraulic Engineer, has received a copy of your letter dated July 23, 1962, sent to the County Commissioners of Hampden County, regarding proposed changes to the dam at Little Alum Lake. The County Commissioners have directed that I contact your Board and assist you, as well as advise you, in connection with engineering and hydraulic matters pertaining to the dam.

I would be pleased to meet you at the site of the dam at a day and time convenient to your Board and to representatives of the Little Alum Lake Association. If you will please suggest a day and hour, I will arrange my schedule, if possible, to meet with you. Please write me at the above address or call me in Holyoke at JE 3-3991. If I should be out of the office when you call, leave a message with the secretary as to the desired time for the conference in the field. I will return your call and confirm the time or suggest an alternate, if there is a conflict with my schedule.

Very truly yours

GHM/cmb

George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

COPY

June 5, 1963

Little Alum Lake Association, Inc.,
Little Alum Lake
Brimfield, Mass.

Att: Mr. W. L. Henderson

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapt. 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the dam on Little Alum Lake has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

" This dam was found to be in good condition when checked. The new spillway and pond outlet has been built in accordance with the approved plans and specifications filed last year. The fish screen, located a few inches upstream of the stop-plank has a top elevation higher than that called for on the approved drawing. The drawing as filed shows the top of the fish screen at the same elevation as the top of the stoplogs. However, the screen extends upwards to the top of the concrete. Should the entire surface of the screen become plugged with debris, water would overflow the entire length of the small concrete structure and wash onto the soil of the abutment areas. This condition may result in damage to the channel paved with riprap. The screen should be reduced in elevation as called for on the approved drawings or the abutment areas raised with masonry to confine any overflow to the masonry portion of the structure and to the main channel paved with riprap. The riprap channel is in need of repair just upstream of the roadway culvert.

At the time of inspection, the water level in storage in the pond was down about 6", more or less, from the top of the stoplogs."

2.

If any further information is desired in connection with this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**LITTLE ALUM LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.
BRIMFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

June 15, 1963

Board of County Commissioners
37 Elm Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of June 5th regarding inspection of the dam at Little Alum Lake.

The fish screen was originally installed according to plan with the same top elevation as the stoplogs. However, last fall several rainbow trout were noticed in the culvert beneath Little Alum Road. It was finally resolved that these fish were coming over the spillway and this condition would possibly jeopardize the State stocking program at this lake unless something was done about it. Therefore, we raised the fish screen six inches to the top of the structure and at the same time appointed two permanent residents on the lake, both retired, to inspect the dam site daily and keep it free from any debris when water is flowing over the stoplogs. Periodic inspection will ascertain this is being done to the satisfaction of all concerned. This screen will be removed completely when the water level is below the top of the stoplogs.

We are certainly aware that safety of the structure is of number one importance, but hope to keep peace between the County Commissioners and the Division of Fisheries and Game if possible without going to the added expense of raising the structure.

The riprap channel downstream will be repaired within the next few weeks.

We would be interested in knowing if this agreement meets with your approval.

Very truly yours,

LITTLE ALUM LAKE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Wilson L. Henderson

WLH-o

Smith, J R Dam



o Brimfield

See Also: Dam Report Section - Brimfield.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Smith, J R Dam
Name	Smith, J R

BRIMFIELD
D03013

SMITH, J R DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Kaplinger Dam aka Butler Dam



1926 Brimfield

Dam located on a tributary of Elbow Brook.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Kaplinger Dam
Dam	Butler Dam
Name	Kaplinger, Charles H
Water	Elbow Brook

March 10, 1926

Mr. Charles H. Kaplinger,
832 Chestnut Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on a tributary to Elbow Brook so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"Considerable debris, however, is collected around the broken-down spillway, which, in time, may increase and cause trouble. It is recommended, therefore, that this debris be removed and that the water way be freed from accumulations of any kind."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

November 17, 1926

Mr. Charles H. Kaplinger,
832 Chestnut Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Inasmuch as your dam was inspected quite recently by our Engineer who found that no repairs had been made thereon, your attention is called to the notice sent to you on March 10, 1926 of which a copy is herewith enclosed.

In case you would like further information regarding the repairs required than that contained in notice, should you communicate or call upon our Engineer, James L. Tighe of the firm of Tighe & Bond, 189 High St., Holyoke, Mass., he will be glad to advise you.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

C/W
Enc.

Page 11 of Report

Charles H. Kaplinger,
832 Chestnut St.,
Springfield, Mass.

you are notified that your dam,
located on a tributary to Elbow Brook so called in
the Town of Brimfield, etc,

"Considerable debris, however, is
collected around the broken-down
spillway, which, in time, may increase
and cause trouble. It is recommended,
therefore, that this debris be removed and
that the water way be freed from
accumulations of any kind."

Now, therefore, etc.

Farrer Dam



1926 Brimfield

Dam located on Blodgett Mill Brook.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Farrer Dam
Name	Farrer, L D
Water	Blodgett Mill Brook

March 10, 1926

Mr. L. D. Farrer,
R.P.D.#1
Palmer, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Blodgett Mill Brook so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"The dam is in good condition although the wood planking over the penstock, laid from the pond to the mill, is in poor condition and should be renewed."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

Page 12 of report

S.D. Farmer,
Palmer, Mass.,
R. F. D. #1

you are notified that your dam,
located on Blodgett Mill Brook so called in the
Town of Brimfield, etc.

"The dam is in good condition
although the wood planking over the
penstock, laid from the pond to the
mill, is in poor condition and should
be renewed."

Now, therefore, etc.

Sherman Lake Outlet



o Brimfield

Complaint - Thomas S Magrath. See Sherman Lake Dam file.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Sherman Lake Outlet
Name	Magrath, Thomas S
Water	Sherman Lake

BRIMFIELD
D03016

LAKE SHERMAN OUTLET

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Maple Lake Arms Dam



o Brimfield

See also: Foskett Lake Stream Dam, Maple Lake Dam.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Maple Lake Arms Dam
Name	Karcmarczk, Stanley A

BRIMFIELD
D03018

MAPLE LAKE ARMS DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

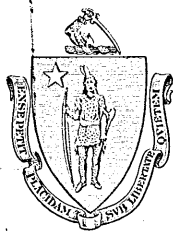
Mill Pond Dam



1926 Brimfield

Dam located on Mill Brook. See also: County Highways - Mill Pond Road - ch10120. See also: County Roads plan #16 (1955) Flood Bridge & Dam Mill Lane Road.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Mill Pond Dam
Name	Wheeler, C R
Name	Pelletier, J N
Streets	Mill Lane
Water	Mill Brook



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works
Division of Waterways and Public Lands

State House, Boston, March 4, 1926.

To the County Commissioners
of the County of Hampden,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

It has been brought to our attention that the outlet of a small pond in Brimfield located southwest of the center of the town on Mill Lane, which connects the Palmer-Wales Roads, is in bad condition inasmuch as the gate will not open. This may cause a washing out of the highway, which I understand is a County road.

Our records indicate that this is an artificial pond, and that, therefore, this Division has no jurisdiction over it. This matter is called to your attention so that you may take what action you desire under Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924.

Very truly yours,

William F. Williams
WILLIAM F. WILLIAMS,
Commissioner.

RKH-H

March 10, 1926

Mr. J. H. Pelletier,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Mill Brook so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"Through the dam are two penstocks, one which conveys water to the sawmill, and the other which conveyed water to the grist-mill. The sluice gate in the latter seems to leak, and should be repaired. In the north corner of the spillway, there is a leak which should also be repaired, and the loose stones in the upstream facing reset firmly in place."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Copy of this letter sent to Mr. Williams 6/20/26

Page 3 of report

Mill Brook Dam

J. M. Pelletier,
Brimfield, Mass.

you are notified that your dam,
located on Mill Brook so called in the Town
of Brimfield, etc.

"Through the dam are two penstocks,
one which conveys water to the sawmill,
and the other which conveyed water to the
gristmill. The sluice gate in the latter
seems to leak, and should be repaired. On
the north corner of the spillway, there is
a leak which should also be repaired, and
the loose stones in the upstream facing
reset firmly in place."

Now, therefore, etc.

"

JAMES L. TIGHE

MEMBER
AM. SOC. C. E.
INST. C. E. GREAT BRITAIN
ENG. INST. OF CANADA

CONSULTING ENGINEER
CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 189 HIGH STREET
HOLYOKE, MASS.
TELEPHONE 790

MEMBER AM. INST. OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

MEMBER
BOSTON SOC. C. E.
ENG. SOC. WEST. MASS.
AM. & N. E. W. W. ASSOC'S

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
ANALYSIS OF WATER

WATER POWER INVESTIGATIONS
AND DEVELOPMENT
DAMS AND POWER INSTALLATIONS
ESTIMATES AND APPRAISALS

Holyoke, Mass.

March 15, 1926.

The Hon. The Board of Hampden County Commissioners,
Springfield, Mass.
George S. Cook, Chairman,

Dear Sir:

In answer to communication sent to you by Mr. W. F. Williams, Commissioner of the State Department of Public Works, regarding the outlet of a pond located southwest of the center of the Town of Brimfield on Mill Lane, so-called, it seems that this outlet is in the J. N. Pelletier earthen dam, described on page nine in the report of Hampden County Dams, and that no doubt Mr. Pelletier has received a notice from you by this time relative to the structure.

As the report shows, the outlet and gate therein referred to by Mr. Williams were investigated. According to his letter, however, it would appear that this outlet is the only one from the pond, wherein, as is stated in the report, there is a regular surface spillway or overflow twenty-four feet in length with its crest four feet below the top of the dam. As a matter of fact the so-called outlet is only a penstock which was installed to convey the water from the pond across the highway to the old grist-mill wheel.

It may be possible, of course, that this is not the same outlet referred to by Mr. Williams. To make sure, therefore, it might be advisable to write Mr. Williams asking for more detailed information as to the location of the pond and outlet.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Tighe

*Copy of this letter sent
to Mr. Wms. on
3/17/26.*

March 17, 1926

Mr. William F. Williams, Commissioner,
Department of Public Works,
Division of Highways,
State House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your communication of March 4th
we have referred your letter to our engineer, Mr. James
L. Tighe of Holyoke. We are enclosing herewith copy
of his reply, also copy of letter sent to Mr. J. N.
Pelletier, Brimfield, Mass.

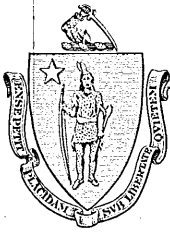
Kindly advise us what, in your judgment, we
should do more than has already been done.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/M
2 Enc.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works
Division of Waterways and Public Lands

State House, Boston , March 22, 1926.

To the County Commissioners
of Hampden County,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

I have received your letter of March 17th with enclosures concerning the outlet of a small pond in Brimfield. I can add very little more information.

Mr. William R. Lathrop of Brimfield, Massachusetts, complained to the Department of Public Safety that the gate on this dam was out of order and could not be raised so as to draw off the surplus water. He stated that because of this defect the highway located on the dam had been washed out twice.

This complaint was referred to this Division and further information was asked from Mr. Lathrop. As soon as this was supplied it was determined that the pond was an artificial pond and that this Division had no jurisdiction in the matter, and Mr. Lathrop was so informed and advised to bring the situation to the attention of the County Commissioners.

No further information has been received by the Division but it seemed wise to present the matter for whatever action you care to take as Mr. Lathrop replied that a further flood at this time might do considerable damage.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard K. Stealy".

Associate Commissioner.

RKH-H

May 6, 1926

Board of Selectmen,
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them at Mr. Napoleon Pelletier's saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of the dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

May 6, 1926

Mr. F. Edgar Brown,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them and the Selectmen of Brimfield at Mr. Napoleon Pelletier's saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of the dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

May 6, 1926

Mr. William R. Lathrop,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them and the Selectmen of Brimfield at Mr. Napoleon Pelletier's saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of the dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

May 6, 1926

Mr. Napoleon Pelletier,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them and the Selectmen of Brimfield at your saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of your dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

Mill Brook Dam

June 9, 1926

Mr. ^{Durence} Brown here. Relative to having the gate repaired, it was the decision of the Comms. + Mr. Brown that the proper time to do this is in the late summer when the water will be the lowest in the pond + that Comms. are to take the matter up with Mr. Pelletier + make arrangements for him to repair the gate.

COPY

December 8, 1947

Town of Brimfield
Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the Mill Pond Dam owned by the Town of Brimfield and located on Mill Brook in Brimfield, has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"In an inspection made on November 19, 1947 of Mill Pond Dam located in Brimfield on Mill Brook and owned by the Town of Brimfield, it was found that two feet of flashboards were in place on the spillway structure. If these flashboards were not removed on December 1, 1947, then the owner should at once comply with the conditions in the decree dated December 9, 1936, which reads as follows:

'It is ordered that the use of flashboards shall not be allowed on the spillway between the 1st of December and the 15th of April and until after the spring freshets and the ice in the pond are gone; it is further ordered that, in case of extraordinary rainstorms and highway water at any time between the 15th of April and the 1st of December, the owner of the pond shall take the flashboards off, and not put them on again until after the high water has subsided.'"

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Charles W. Bray
Chairman

William Dwight

Thomas F. Sullivan

Mill Pond Dam

December 1, 1948

C. R. Wheeler
Brimfield, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the Mill Pond Dam owned by you and located on Mill Brook in Brimfield, has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"In an inspection made on November 26, 1948 of Mill Pond Dam located on Mill Brook in the Town of Brimfield, now owned by C. R. Wheeler, Brimfield, Massachusetts, it was found that two feet of flashboards were in place on the spillway structure. If these flashboards were not removed on December 1, 1948, then the Owner should at once comply with the conditions in the decree dated December 9, 1936, which reads as follows:

'It is ordered that the use of flashboards shall not be allowed on the spillway between the 1st of December and the 15th of April and until after the spring freshets and the ice in the pond are gone; it is further ordered that, in case of extraordinary rainstorms and highway water at any time between the 15th of April and the 1st of December, the owner of the pond shall take the flashboards off, and not put them on again until after the high water has subsided.'"

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Charles W. Bray

Chairman

William Dwight

Thomas F. Sullivan

GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN
EDWARD J. BAYON

TIGHE & BOND CONSULTING ENGINEERS

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Brimfield

July 11, 1967

The Honorable the Board of County Commissioners
52 State Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

On Monday, July 10, 1967, I received a telephone call from Richard C. Allen of the Board of Selectmen of Brimfield, requesting information regarding the Mill Pond Dam near the center of the Town of Brimfield. Mr. Allen stated that a Mr. Killian, owner of property upstream of the dam and adjacent to the pond, has requested that the Board of Selectmen lower the level of water in the pond. Mr. Allen requested that he be given information as to whether or not the Selectmen have the right to lower the water level and whether or not they must lower the water level if requested by a pond abuttor.

The pond level can be controlled by removal of flashboards on the crest of the dam or by opening the drawdown gate at the head of the conduit through the dam. Either method of drawing down the pond would be satisfactory provided the water was released slowly so as not to cause any flooding in the stream below the dam.

I informed Mr. Allen of the Board of Selectmen that insofar as the County is concerned, your Honorable Board has no authority regarding a dam unless the question raised is one relative to safety of the dam. Since the matter at hand has nothing to do with safety of the dam and since the dam is in satisfactory condition, I advised Mr. Allen that the County could not take any action relative to a directive pertaining to the lowering or a refusal to lower water level behind the dam. I advised Mr. Allen that this is entirely a matter between the Town, as owner of the dam, and the property owner involved making the request. I suggested that Mr. Allen determine whether or not the property owner involved had rights to a

**TIGHE
& BOND CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

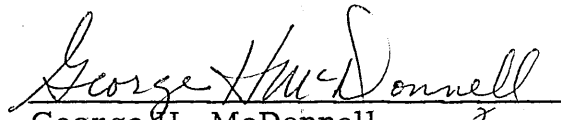
-2-

certain pond level or, if the deed to his property provided any special conditions relative to the owner of the dam drawing down the pond at the will of the land owner so that he can do certain improvements and make certain changes to his property.

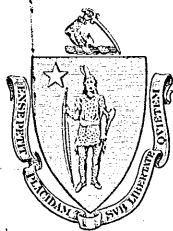
In summary, I advised Mr. Allen that the matter is one for legal investigation and interpretation. I suggested that he discuss the problem with the Town Attorney.

The above facts are sent to your Board so that you may be informed of this matter should either the Selectmen of Brimfield or Mr. Killian ask for advice or guidance relative to this matter.

Very truly yours,


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mbf



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works
Division of Waterways and Public Lands

State House, Boston, March 4, 1926.

To the County Commissioners
of the County of Hampden,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

It has been brought to our attention that the outlet of a small pond in Brimfield located southwest of the center of the town on Mill Lane, which connects the Palmer-Wales Roads, is in bad condition inasmuch as the gate will not open. This may cause a washing out of the highway, which I understand is a County road.

Our records indicate that this is an artificial pond, and that, therefore, this Division has no jurisdiction over it. This matter is called to your attention so that you may take what action you desire under Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924.

Very truly yours,

William F. Williams
WILLIAM F. WILLIAMS,
Commissioner.

RKH-H

March 10, 1926

Mr. J. H. Pelletier,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Mill Brook so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"Through the dam are two penstocks, one which conveys water to the sawmill, and the other which conveyed water to the grist-mill. The sluice gate in the latter seems to leak, and should be repaired. In the north corner of the spillway, there is a leak which should also be repaired, and the loose stones in the upstream facing reset firmly in place."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Copy of this letter sent to Mr. Williams 6/20/26

Page 3 of report

Mill Brook Dam

J. M. Pelletier,
Brimfield, Mass.

you are notified that your dam,
located on Mill Brook so called in the Town
of Brimfield, etc.

"Through the dam are two penstocks,
one which conveys water to the sawmill,
and the other which conveyed water to the
gristmill. The sluice gate in the latter
seems to leak, and should be repaired. On
the north corner of the spillway, there is
a leak which should also be repaired, and
the loose stones in the upstream facing
reset firmly in place."

Now, therefore, etc.

"

JAMES L. TIGHE

MEMBER
AM. SOC. C. E.
INST. C. E. GREAT BRITAIN
ENG. INST. OF CANADA

CONSULTING ENGINEER
CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 189 HIGH STREET
HOLYOKE, MASS.
TELEPHONE 790

MEMBER AM. INST. OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

MEMBER
BOSTON SOC. C. E.
ENG. SOC. WEST. MASS.
AM. & N. E. W. W. ASSOC'S

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
ANALYSIS OF WATER

WATER POWER INVESTIGATIONS
AND DEVELOPMENT
DAMS AND POWER INSTALLATIONS
ESTIMATES AND APPRAISALS

Holyoke, Mass.

March 15, 1926.

The Hon. The Board of Hampden County Commissioners,
Springfield, Mass.
George S. Cook, Chairman,

Dear Sir:

In answer to communication sent to you by Mr. W. F. Williams, Commissioner of the State Department of Public Works, regarding the outlet of a pond located southwest of the center of the Town of Brimfield on Mill Lane, so-called, it seems that this outlet is in the J. N. Pelletier earthen dam, described on page nine in the report of Hampden County Dams, and that no doubt Mr. Pelletier has received a notice from you by this time relative to the structure.

As the report shows, the outlet and gate therein referred to by Mr. Williams were investigated. According to his letter, however, it would appear that this outlet is the only one from the pond, wherein, as is stated in the report, there is a regular surface spillway or overflow twenty-four feet in length with its crest four feet below the top of the dam. As a matter of fact the so-called outlet is only a penstock which was installed to convey the water from the pond across the highway to the old grist-mill wheel.

It may be possible, of course, that this is not the same outlet referred to by Mr. Williams. To make sure, therefore, it might be advisable to write Mr. Williams asking for more detailed information as to the location of the pond and outlet.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Tighe

*Copy of this letter sent
to Mr. Wms. on
3/17/26.*

March 17, 1926

Mr. William F. Williams, Commissioner,
Department of Public Works,
Division of Highways,
State House,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your communication of March 4th
we have referred your letter to our engineer, Mr. James
L. Tighe of Holyoke. We are enclosing herewith copy
of his reply, also copy of letter sent to Mr. J. N.
Pelletier, Brimfield, Mass.

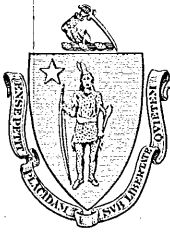
Kindly advise us what, in your judgment, we
should do more than has already been done.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

C/M
2 Enc.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Works
Division of Waterways and Public Lands

State House, Boston , March 22, 1926.

To the County Commissioners
of Hampden County,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen,

I have received your letter of March 17th with enclosures concerning the outlet of a small pond in Brimfield. I can add very little more information.

Mr. William R. Lathrop of Brimfield, Massachusetts, complained to the Department of Public Safety that the gate on this dam was out of order and could not be raised so as to draw off the surplus water. He stated that because of this defect the highway located on the dam had been washed out twice.

This complaint was referred to this Division and further information was asked from Mr. Lathrop. As soon as this was supplied it was determined that the pond was an artificial pond and that this Division had no jurisdiction in the matter, and Mr. Lathrop was so informed and advised to bring the situation to the attention of the County Commissioners.

No further information has been received by the Division but it seemed wise to present the matter for whatever action you care to take as Mr. Lathrop replied that a further flood at this time might do considerable damage.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard K. Stealy".

Associate Commissioner.

RKH-H

May 6, 1926

Board of Selectmen,
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them at Mr. Napoleon Pelletier's saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of the dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

May 6, 1926

Mr. F. Edgar Brown,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them and the Selectmen of Brimfield at Mr. Napoleon Pelletier's saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of the dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

May 6, 1926

Mr. William R. Lathrop,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them and the Selectmen of Brimfield at Mr. Napoleon Pelletier's saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of the dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

May 6, 1926

Mr. Napoleon Pelletier,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Commissioners would like to have you meet with them and the Selectmen of Brimfield at your saw-mill on Friday, June 4th next, at 2 P. M. to go over the matter of your dam located on Mill Brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

GSC/N

Mill Brook Dam

June 9, 1926

Mr. ^{Durence} Brown here. Relative to having the gate repaired, it was the decision of the Comms. + Mr. Brown that the proper time to do this is in the late summer when the water will be the lowest in the pond + that Comms. are to take the matter up with Mr. Pelletier + make arrangements for him to repair the gate.

COPY

December 8, 1947

Town of Brimfield
Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the Mill Pond Dam owned by the Town of Brimfield and located on Mill Brook in Brimfield, has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"In an inspection made on November 19, 1947 of Mill Pond Dam located in Brimfield on Mill Brook and owned by the Town of Brimfield, it was found that two feet of flashboards were in place on the spillway structure. If these flashboards were not removed on December 1, 1947, then the owner should at once comply with the conditions in the decree dated December 9, 1936, which reads as follows:

'It is ordered that the use of flashboards shall not be allowed on the spillway between the 1st of December and the 15th of April and until after the spring freshets and the ice in the pond are gone; it is further ordered that, in case of extraordinary rainstorms and highway water at any time between the 15th of April and the 1st of December, the owner of the pond shall take the flashboards off, and not put them on again until after the high water has subsided.'"

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Charles W. Bray
Chairman

William Dwight

Thomas F. Sullivan

Mill Pond Dam

December 1, 1948

C. R. Wheeler
Brimfield, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the Mill Pond Dam owned by you and located on Mill Brook in Brimfield, has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"In an inspection made on November 26, 1948 of Mill Pond Dam located on Mill Brook in the Town of Brimfield, now owned by C. R. Wheeler, Brimfield, Massachusetts, it was found that two feet of flashboards were in place on the spillway structure. If these flashboards were not removed on December 1, 1948, then the Owner should at once comply with the conditions in the decree dated December 9, 1936, which reads as follows:

'It is ordered that the use of flashboards shall not be allowed on the spillway between the 1st of December and the 15th of April and until after the spring freshets and the ice in the pond are gone; it is further ordered that, in case of extraordinary rainstorms and highway water at any time between the 15th of April and the 1st of December, the owner of the pond shall take the flashboards off, and not put them on again until after the high water has subsided.'"

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Charles W. Bray

Chairman

William Dwight

Thomas F. Sullivan

GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN
EDWARD J. BAYON

TIGHE & BOND CONSULTING ENGINEERS

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Brimfield
July 11, 1967

The Honorable the Board of County Commissioners
52 State Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

On Monday, July 10, 1967, I received a telephone call from Richard C. Allen of the Board of Selectmen of Brimfield, requesting information regarding the Mill Pond Dam near the center of the Town of Brimfield. Mr. Allen stated that a Mr. Killian, owner of property upstream of the dam and adjacent to the pond, has requested that the Board of Selectmen lower the level of water in the pond. Mr. Allen requested that he be given information as to whether or not the Selectmen have the right to lower the water level and whether or not they must lower the water level if requested by a pond abuttor.

The pond level can be controlled by removal of flashboards on the crest of the dam or by opening the drawdown gate at the head of the conduit through the dam. Either method of drawing down the pond would be satisfactory provided the water was released slowly so as not to cause any flooding in the stream below the dam.

I informed Mr. Allen of the Board of Selectmen that insofar as the County is concerned, your Honorable Board has no authority regarding a dam unless the question raised is one relative to safety of the dam. Since the matter at hand has nothing to do with safety of the dam and since the dam is in satisfactory condition, I advised Mr. Allen that the County could not take any action relative to a directive pertaining to the lowering or a refusal to lower water level behind the dam. I advised Mr. Allen that this is entirely a matter between the Town, as owner of the dam, and the property owner involved making the request. I suggested that Mr. Allen determine whether or not the property owner involved had rights to a

**TIGHE
& BOND CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

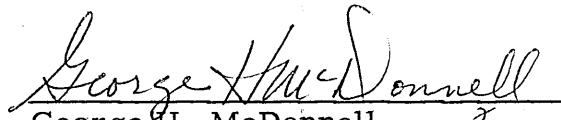
-2-

certain pond level or, if the deed to his property provided any special conditions relative to the owner of the dam drawing down the pond at the will of the land owner so that he can do certain improvements and make certain changes to his property.

In summary, I advised Mr. Allen that the matter is one for legal investigation and interpretation. I suggested that he discuss the problem with the Town Attorney.

The above facts are sent to your Board so that you may be informed of this matter should either the Selectmen of Brimfield or Mr. Killian ask for advice or guidance relative to this matter.

Very truly yours,


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mbf

Monette Dam



o Brimfield

See Also: Dam Report Section - Brimfield.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Monette Dam

BRIMFIELD
D03020

MONETTE DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Morgan Dam



o Brimfield

See Also: Dam Report Section - Brimfield.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Morgan Dam
Name	Sprague
Name	Morgan

BRIMFIELD
D03021

MORGAN DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Pierce Dam fka Humpage Dam fka Anderson Dam



1933 Brimfield

Dam located on Elbow Brook.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Pierce Dam
Dam	Anderson Dam
Dam	Humpage Dam
Name	Anderson, Ralph P
Name	Pierce, R B
Name	Humpage, F R
Water	Elbow Brook

NO-TOIL PRODUCTS CORPORATION

173 STATE STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

March 15th, 1926.

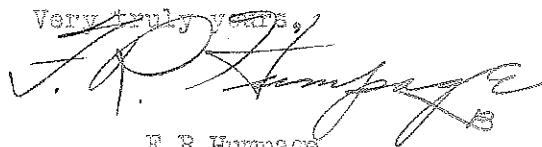
County of Hampden Commissioners,
County of Hampden,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I have your letter of March 10th advising of the inspection of the dam located on my property in the town of Brimfield and I note that your engineer has recommended that the slight leakage which now exists along the foundation of the structure be repaired.

This matter will have my attention and an investigation will be made and whatever repairs are necessary will be made within a reasonable time, when and as the weather conditions permit.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'F.R. Humpage', with a stylized flourish at the end.

F.R. Humpage

FRH:B

March 10, 1926

Mr. F. R. Humpage,
Palmer, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Elbow Brook so-called in the Town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"There is some leakage along the foundation of the structure. This leakage is not serious now, but may become so later. Hence, it is advisable that it be repaired."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

Page 11 of report

F. R. Humpage,

Palmer, Mass.

you are notified that your dam,
located on Elbow Brook so called in the Town of
Brimfield, etc.

"There is some leakage along the
foundation of the structure. This
leakage is not serious now, but may
become so later. Hence, it is advisable
that it be repaired."

Now, therefore, etc.

April 26, 1933

Mr. Ralph P. Anderson,
Port Jefferson,
Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Elbow Brook so called, in the Town of Brimfield, Mass., has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The hydro-electric plant which was located against the downstream face of the dam has been removed. The penstock well still remains but it was not properly sealed after the removal of the plant, so that there is considerable leakage through this part of the dam. This penstock well should be repaired and all leakage stopped."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with in a reasonable length of time.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairmen.

Stumpage Dam

COPY

May 27, 1933

Mr. Raph P. Anderson,
Fort Jefferson,
Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 15th inst. to the Hampden County Commissioners, relative to your dam in the Town of Brimfield, Mass., has been turned over to me, the engineer who inspected the dam. In answer thereto I may say that I quite agree that because of the small pondage formed by the dam, its release, even by the sudden failure of the structure, would have little or no effect in the way of causing damage to either life or property. Certainly the dam and pond give the appearance of being, and probably are, harmless enough ordinarily.

There are other considerations however that have to be guarded against as well as damage from released pondage. In the case of the present dam, there is the possibility that the top or wooden portion, if not kept in a stable condition, might be washed away in a flood flow and carried downstream to do damage to other dams or structures below.

For instance the heavy timbers and other parts of the top portion of the dam could be carried downstream and block the spillway of the dam below. This might cause the pond to rise, top the embankment and result in failure of the structure.

In regard to the likelihood of such an occurrence happening it must be remembered that there are $3 \frac{1}{3}$ square miles of drainage areas contributory to the dam and that flood flows as high at least as 700 cubic feet per second at the dam are to be expected.

In general, where there is no further use for a dam and where it is not to be kept in repair, it is the policy of the County, especially where there are other dams downstream, to request that the abandoned structure be breached or put in such condition that there can be no question whatever of any damage being caused thereby.

The dam under consideration is leaking badly as the whole flow of the stream is passing through under rather than over the crest chiefly next to the east side of the penstock well.

If it is not intended to repair and maintain the dam or to use the pond it would seem advisable for your own protection at least to remove the weaker parts of the structure such as the wooden crest, which is in poor condition on the east side of the penstock well. This work could be done at a very small cost.

Yours very truly,

James L. Foghe

R. P. ANDERSON
PORT JEFFERSON, LONG ISLAND
NEW YORK

May 15, 1933.

County Commissioners,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen: I have your report of April 26th and am at a loss to understand it, for the following reasons;

If the inspection by your engineer is based on safety to the public, as I presume it was, may I call the following to your attention.

1st- The pond, being about 35 years old, is full of sand and silt so that it is at no place more than four feet deep and considerably less in most places.

2nd- If the stone wall were to fall down and the entire amount of water go out at once, it would hardly make a ripple by the time it had gone a quarter of a mile.

3rd- We made no attempt to cap the penstock tight and if it were running all the time as it would if the power were on, nothing could be injured thereby as it is metal flowing out of the concrete well.

Certainly I do not wish to disobey any order based on public safety but I cannot understand how any element of safety is involved. The pond itself does not contain as much as an acre foot water and the drain from the 16 inch penstock, when open will drain it in less than an hour.

May I not have further information at your convenience.

Yours truly,

R. P. Anderson

Dingley Dell
Town of Brimfield
Elbow Brook

Mr. F. R. Humpage
C/O Mr. E.W. Krooner
Palmer, Mass.

August 27, 1941

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby notified that your dam on Elbow Brook in Brimfield has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"Repairs are needed on this structure, especially at the southerly side of the flume pipe, where, it appears, there is some leakage. "

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

September 2, 1942

Mrs. F. R. Humpage
Silver Street
Wilbraham, Mass.

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby notified that your dam on Elbow Brook in Brimfield has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The pondage at this dam has been drawn off and the smaller of the two drain pipes in the base of the dam is kept open so that the flow of the brook may pass through without filling the pond. Because of the possibility of this small pipe becoming plugged with silt, debris, etc., it is recommended that the larger drain pipe through the dam should also be kept open."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____

Chairman

September 20, 1950

R. B. Pierce
Brimfield Road
Monson, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located in Brimfield has been recently inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"No pond is formed by this dam. The flow of the stream goes through the dam at about the center section where the pipes through the dam are located. Rupture on the side of one pipe allows entry of the brook for passage of water through the dam in the pipe. Pipeline gates, now closed or blocked, should be fully opened, or the dam should be breached or properly repaired."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

November 14, 1951

R. B. Pierce
Brimfield Road
Monson, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located in Brimfield has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"No pondage is formed by this dam. The flow of the stream passes through the dam at about the center section where pipelines have been constructed through the dam. The influent structure to the pipelines was partly blocked with debris. The debris should be cleaned from time to time to guarantee free passage of water through the pipelines, or the dam should be breached or properly repaired."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

*R B Pierce Dam
Brimfield*

Smith Dam



o Brimfield

Formed by road fill - Brimfield Road just west of Warren Road.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Smith Dam
Streets	Brimfield Road
Streets	Warren Road

BRIMFIELD
D03023

SMITH DAM

(FORMED BY ROAD FILL OF BRIMFIELD ROAD JUST
WEST OF WARREN ROAD.)

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Snell Dam



o Brimfield

See Also: Dam Report Section - Brimfield.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Snell Dam

BRIMFIELD
D03024

SNELL DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Sportmen's Club Dam



1967 Brimfield

Dam located in Brimfield westerly of Warren Road, Route 19 and northerly of Brimfield Road and involves Taylor Brook.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Sportmen's Club Dam
Name	Sportmen's Club
Name	Post 430 Sportsmen's Club
Name	American Legion Post 430
Streets	Warren Road
Streets	Brimfield Road
Water	Taylor Brook

GEORGE H. McDONNELL
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN
EDWARD J. BAYON

TIGHE & BOND CONSULTING ENGINEERS

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Brimfield
June 8, 1967

The Honorable the Board of County Commissioners
52 State Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

At the request of a Mr. Corbin of Post 430 Sportsmen's Club, the undersigned inspected the site of a proposed pond and dam located in Brimfield westerly of Warren Road, Route 19, and northerly of Brimfield Road. Post 430 Sportsmen's Club apparently is a part of American Legion Post 430 located at 655 Liberty Street in Springfield.

I am attaching hereto, a photocopy of a portion of the Warren sheet of the U. S. topographical maps showing in red the location of the brook involved and, encircled in blue is a barn being converted into the headquarters building of the Sportsmen's Club.

The stream involved is Taylor Brook which flows in a general northerly direction joining other smaller streams to form Tufts Brook in the vicinity of the Mass. Turnpike.

The drainage area of the valley of Taylor Brook at the property of the Post 430 Sportsmen's Club is about 0.9 of a square mile.

No survey work has been done as yet to determine the exact location where a dam would be constructed nor has topography been surveyed and plotted for the purpose of outlining the proposed body of water.

Based upon my field inspection, I am of the opinion that any dam built to form a body of water 5 ft. to 8 ft., more or less, in depth will definitely contain more than one million gallons. Consequently, though the drainage area at the site of the proposed construction is less than one square mile and even if the Owner builds a dam less than 10 ft. in height, the quantity of water stored will definitely exceed one million gallons.

**TIGHE
& BOND CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

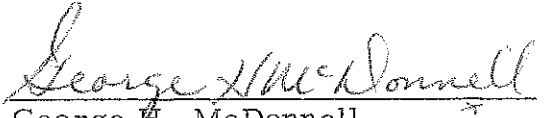
-2-

The representatives of Post 430 Sportsmen's Club have been advised to obtain the services of a qualified engineer or the U. S. Soil Conservation Service to make a preliminary field survey of Taylor Brook and the general topography within the limits of the property involved and along the portion of the brook being considered for dam construction. A preliminary drawing could then be prepared showing tentative dam locations and probable pond sites with estimated storage volumes.

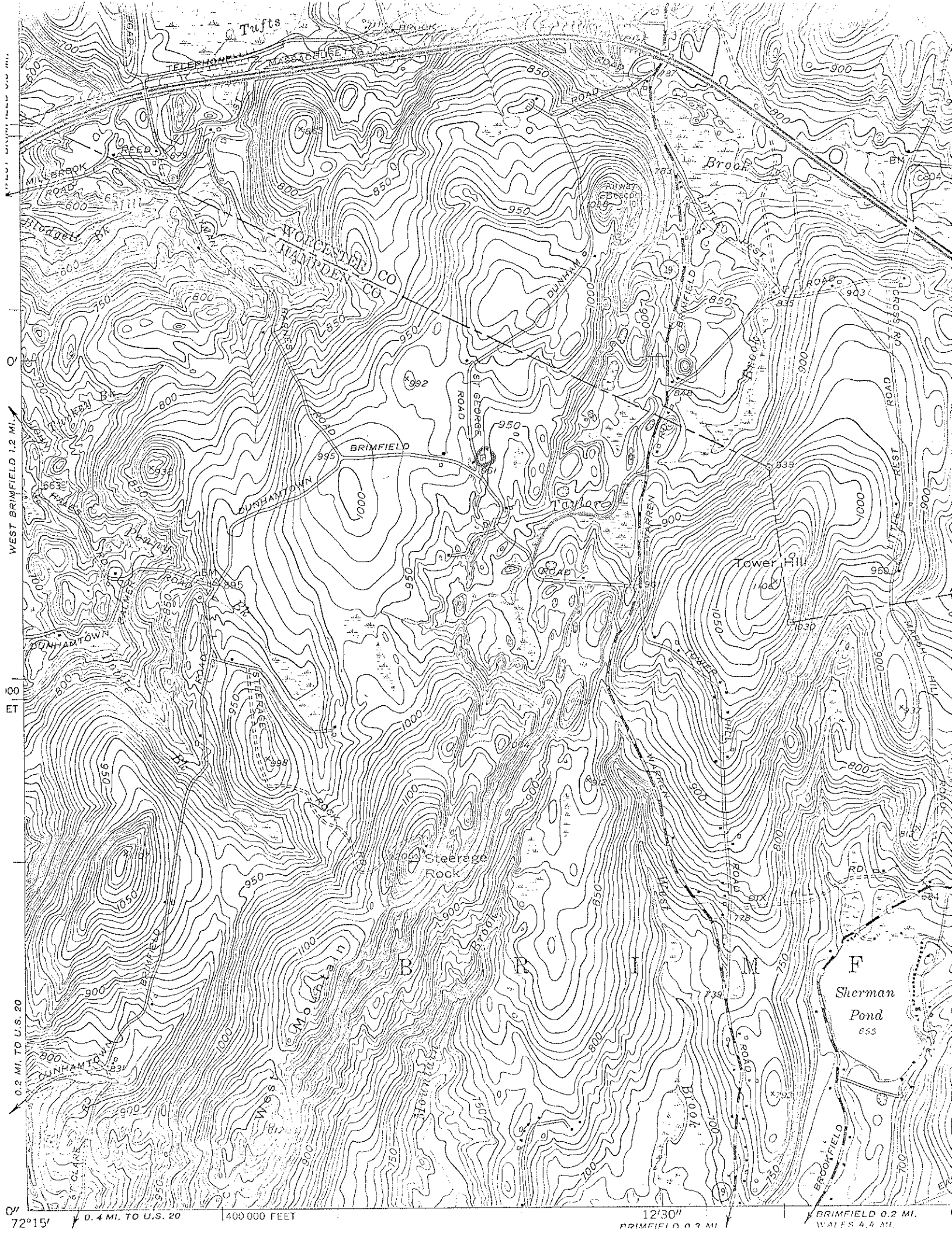
I have also advised the Sportsmen's Club representatives that if they wish to begin clearing a potential site for the proposed pond, this work can be done without permission of the County provided that no damming of the brook occurs and any water storage formed will be in an excavated area.

It is recommended that a communication be sent to the Post 430 Sportsmen's Club confirming the information hereinabove and my conference with the Club representatives at the site on Wednesday, June 7, 1967.

Very truly yours,


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mbf



Topographic map of the Brimfield area in Massachusetts. The map shows contour lines, roads, and geographical features. Key locations include Brimfield, Dunhamtown, and Sherman Pond. The map is oriented with North at the top. A scale bar at the bottom indicates distances in miles and feet. The map is labeled with 'Worcester Co' and 'Randolph Co'.

Worcester Co
Randolph Co

Brimfield
Dunhamtown

Steerage Rock

Sherman Pond

Scale: 0.2 MI. TO U.S. 20
0.4 MI. TO U.S. 20
400 000 FEET

12'30"

BRIMFIELD 0.2 MI.
WALES 4.4 MI.

June 14, 1967

Post 430 Sportsmen's Club
c/o American Legion Post 430
655 Liberty Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Att: Mr. Corbin or Mr. O'Brien

Gentlemen:

The County Hydraulic Engineer has reported to our Board that he has inspected in the field, the site of a proposed dam and pond on your property in Brimfield. Attached hereto is a photocopy of the Warren Quadrangle showing in red the location of the brook under consideration for construction of a dam and formation of a pond and encircled in blue is the barn being converted into Club headquarters.

The stream on which you contemplate construction of a dam and pond is apparently known as Taylor Brook and is located westerly of Warren Road, Route 19, and northerly of Brimfield Road. Your property line limits are not shown on the photo of the topographical map.

The County Hydraulic Engineer reports that the drainage area involved at the proposed site of your dam and pond is in the neighborhood of 0.9 of a square mile. However, he has reported that from his visual inspection, the topography is such that a dam of small height built to store water at a depth of only 5 ft. to 8 ft. at the deep portion of the pond will result in storage of over one million gallons of water. Any dam built in Massachusetts storing over one million gallons of water, regardless of the height of the dam or the size of the drainage area must be built according to approved and filed plans and specifications submitted to and reviewed by County Commissioners of the County in which the work is to be done. Consequently, any impounding of water on your property by means of dam construction must not be done until plans and specifications have been prepared, filed with our Board, approved and then a Decree issued allowing for the construction work to proceed.

The County Hydraulic Engineer has pointed out that you may wish to do clearing and excavation work this Summer. You will not need to file plans for this type of work. Water may be stored in an excavation without obtaining permission of this Board. However, none of the excavated material can be used to impound brook water.

We call your attention to the fact that the Town of Brimfield may have rules and regulations relative to excavations and construction work. Also, under certain conditions, the State of Massachusetts through the Division of Waterways of the Department of Public Works and the Department of Natural Resources has control over the excavation along streams. It might be advisable to inform these Agencies of work you plan to do and to obtain permission or a statement of no interest under present Law.

If our Board can be of any further assistance to you in connection with your proposed project, please call or write us.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

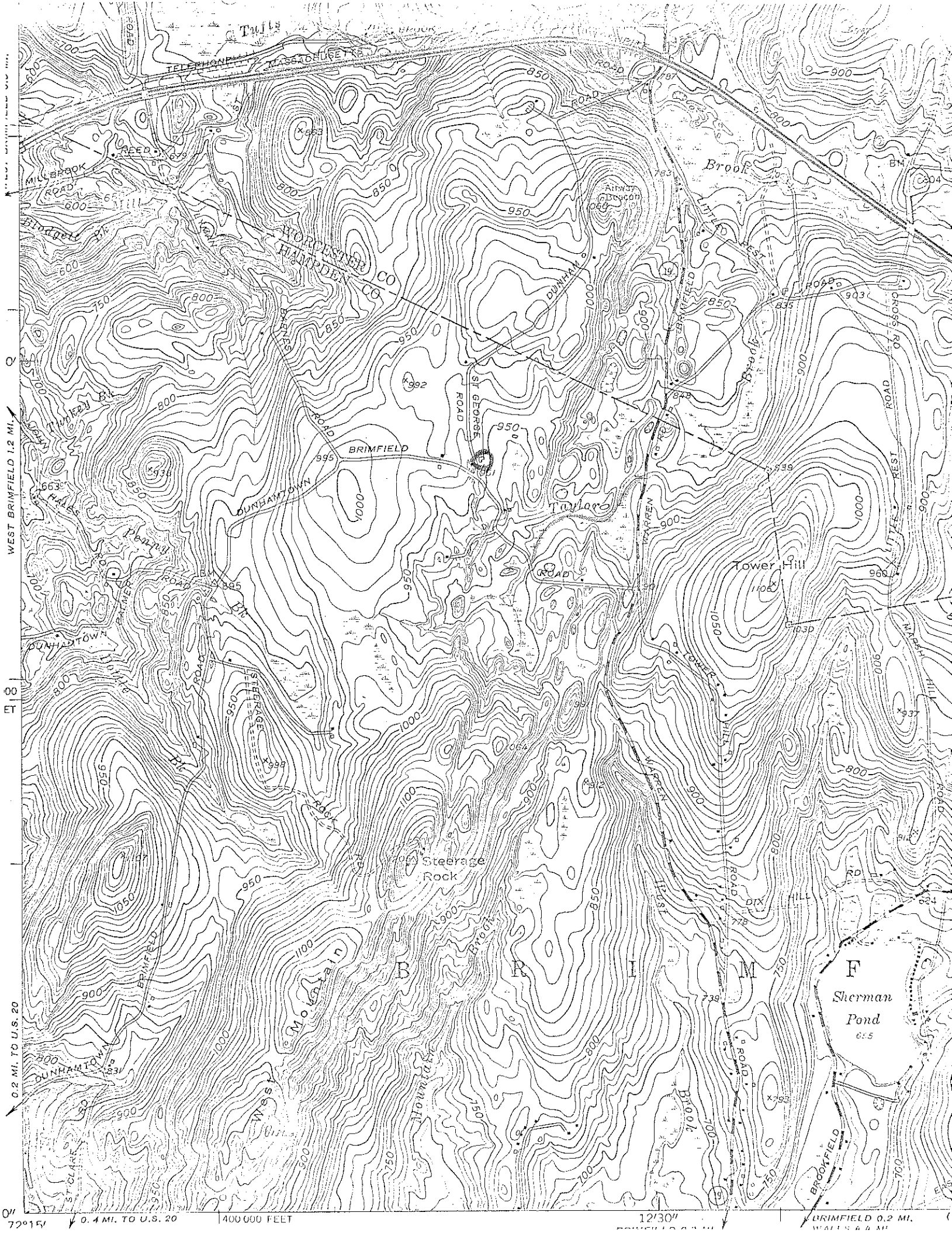
Sherman Lake Dam



1954 Brimfield

Farm belonging to Thomas S Magrath, near Sherman Lake. (Complaint) See also: Sherman Lake Outlet

Abutters	Magrath, Thomas S
Abutters	Indian Hill Farms
City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Sherman Lake Dam
Name	Magrath, Thomas S
Streets	Brookfield Road
Water	Sherman Pond
Water	Mill Brook
Water	East Brook
Water	Sherman Lake



THOMAS S. MAGRATH

INDIAN HILL FARMS

BRIMFIELD, MASS.

August 25, 1954

County Commissioners Hampden County
Court House Bldg.
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I own a farm in Brimfield near Lake Sherman. There is a dam at the power end of the lake.

To my knowledge the dam was installed by the Town of Brimfield with the idea of holding the water back for fire protection in the winter for the center of Brimfield.

Also that the plank were to be removed in the spring and replaced in the fall.

I contacted the selectmen (Mr. A. W. Gondek) on the matter the plank were removed for two or three days and have been replaced.

The water is flooding my meadow so that I can not work my land. I have lost at the present time three tons of hay cut but can not get it as there is so much water.

I wish you would give this matter some study at your earliest date as it will soon be time to harvest the second crop.

Yours very truly

Thomas S. Magrath
Thomas S. Magrath

THOMAS S. MAGRATH

Indian Hill Farms

Brimfield, Mass.

August 25, 1954

County Commissioners Hampden County
Court House Bldg.
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I own a farm in Brimfield near Lake Sherman.
There is a dam at the power end of the lake.

To my knowledge the dam was installed by the
Town of Brimfield with the idea of holding the water back
for fire protection in the winter for the center of Brim-
field.

Also that the plank were to be removed in the
spring and replaced in the fall.

I contacted the selectmen (Mr. A. W. Gondek)
on the matter the plank were removed for two or three
days and have been replaced.

The water is flooding my meadow so that I can
not work my land. I have lost at the present time three
tons of hay out but can not get it as there is so much
water.

I wish you would give this matter some study
at your earliest date as it will soon be time to harvest
the second crop.

Yours very truly

(signed)

Thomas S. Magrath

Thomas S. Magrath

(C O P Y)

September 1, 1954

Mr. George H. McDonnell,
County Hydraulic Engineer,
189 High Street,
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Mr. McDonnell:

Enclosed herewith is copy of
letter received from Mr. Thomas S. Magrath of
Brimfield. The County Commissioners would appre-
ciate it very much if you would look into the mat-
ter and send us a report.

Very truly yours,

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

TFS/N
Encl.

TIGHE & BOND

C-D

Sept. 3, 1954

Mr. Thomas S. Magrath
Indian Hill Farms
Brimfield, Mass.

COPY

Dear Sir:-

The County Commissioners of Hampden County have directed that I contact you relative to your letter of August 25, 1954, pertaining to water that is flooding your meadow so that you cannot work your land.

I plan to be in Brimfield at 9 AM on Thursday, Sept. 9th, 1954 and at that time I will stop at your home and review this problem with you in the field.

If this date and time is not satisfactory to you, kindly let me know.

Very truly yours

By _____
George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb

cc: County Commissioners
Hampden County, Court House
Springfield, Mass.

COPY

September 16, 1954

Mr. Thomas S. Magrath,
Indian Hill Farms,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Mr. Magrath:

The County Commissioners of Hampden
County have directed me to reply to your letter of
August 25, 1954.

There is enclosed herewith copy
of a report by the County Hydraulic Engineer,
Mr. George H. McDonnell, to the County Commissioners
of Hampden County covering his examination and recom-
mendations with respect to your problem. It is felt
that the information contained in this report will be
of some help to you.

Very truly yours,

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Counsel.

WJF/N
Encl.

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

GEORGE H. McDONNELL, PROP.

189 HIGH STREET

HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

September 14, 1954

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
WASTE DISPOSAL
C-D

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Attention Thomas F. Sullivan, Chairman

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your letter of September 1st, 1954, in which you sent to me a copy of a letter received by your Board from Mr. Thomas S. Magrath of Brimfield, I have been to Brimfield, and report as follows:

The farm owned by Mr. Magrath in Brimfield, and in particular the field where he is having trouble, due to a wet condition, is located off of Brookfield Road, just northerly and upstream from Sherman Pond, near the center of the Town of Brimfield. I examined the field in question and found that the area of the field that is low lying and adjacent to East Brook, the stream that feeds Sherman Pond, was flooded to a depth of a few inches with water, and in certain sections was damp enough to present a problem in obtaining the hay growth from the field.

Sherman Pond is a natural pond fed by East Brook and drained to Mill Brook through the easterly section of the built up portion of Town. The outlet to Sherman Pond is a notch through which a brook flows that drains the over-flow from the pond. The notch or water-way is simply a small local valley a few feet in depth and 20 odd feet in width, and appears to have a natural sandy to gravelly bottom. Across this brook has been constructed at some time in the past a small concrete structure, the bottom of which is approximately equal and in places even below the bottom of the natural brook. At either end of this concrete cut-off wall as well as in the approximate center are located concrete blocks in which slots have been made to receive planking. Two pieces of planking have been installed between each of the two pairs of slots so that at the day of inspection on September 9th, 1954, the planks formed a weir approximately 12" in height above the cut-off wall.

In one sense of the word, this weir could be considered a dam, since it is constructed across a stream having more than one square mile of drainage area. However, the weir could also be considered as a device to prevent erosion of the brook in the outlet notch and thus to guarantee that over the years the level of Sherman Pond would not decrease in elevation.

September 14, 1954

Mr. Magrath explained to me that the procedure in the past had been to remove the planking from the notches in the Spring and the planking was again replaced in the Fall of each year. Thus, the level of Sherman Pond would be slightly lowered during the Spring and Summer season of each year. It is apparent from my field investigation that the removal of the 12" in height of planking would not decrease the level of Sherman Pond 12" since the brook shape through the notch is similar to a curved trough and consequently the removal of the planking, about 20 feet in length, more or less, would result in the width of the over-flow stream becoming narrower as the level of the pond decreased. Consequently to provide for the same quantity of out-flow since the width of the brook would be narrower, the depth of flow would of necessity have to be greater to maintain equal hydraulic conditions. It is my estimation that removal of the planking would probably decrease the elevation of Sherman Pond seven or eight inches. This decrease in water level would probably be sufficient to result in the drying up of the majority of the area of wet field that Mr. Magrath is now troubled with.

There is the possibility that since Sherman Pond is used for recreation and that since from hearsay evidence the Town of Brimfield had some sort of interest in the pond water for fire protection purposes, there might be in the Town records some agreement regarding the control of the level of Sherman Pond. If this is a fact it might be advisable for Mr. Magrath to check Town records during the years preceding or following the installation of the small cut-off wall and weir.

I have checked all of our old files and can find no reference to Sherman Pond or its outlet that would indicate that this pond, even in its present condition, with the removable weir across the outlet, is anything more than a natural pond and that the weir has not in the past been considered a dam.

Even if the weir were to be considered a dam, it presents no danger to the lives and safety of the public and of property downstream from the weir.

Consequently, in view of the above, and in view of all data and hearsay evidence that could be collected to date, regarding the Sherman Pond outlet, I would think that Mr. Magrath has a problem that can only be considered as a civil case and that the solution to the problem can only be made through either an agreement with the Owner of

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners

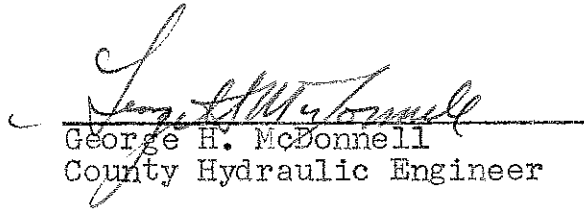
-3-

September 14, 1954

the land at the outlet brook, with others who might have an interest in the Sherman Pond level, or through the normal channels of legal action normally followed in a civil case.

Respectfully submitted,

GHM/emm


George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

COPY

September 14, 1954

C-D

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Attention Thomas F. Sullivan, Chairman

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your letter of September 1st, 1954, in which you sent to me a copy of a letter received by your Board from Mr. Thomas S. Magrath of Brimfield, I have been to Brimfield, and report as follows:

The farm owned by Mr. Magrath in Brimfield, and in particular the field where he is having trouble, due to a wet condition, is located off of Brookfield Road, just northerly and upstream from Sherman Pond, near the center of the Town of Brimfield. I examined the field in question and found that the area of the field that is low lying and adjacent to East Brook, the stream that feeds Sherman Pond, was flooded to a depth of a few inches with water, and in certain sections was damp enough to present a problem in obtaining the hay growth from the field.

COPY

Sherman Pond is a natural pond fed by East Brook and drained to Mill Brook through the easterly section of the built up portion of Town. The outlet to Sherman Pond is a notch through which a brook flows that drains the over-flow from the pond. The notch or water-way is simply a small local valley a few feet in depth and 20 odd feet in width, and appears to have a natural sandy to gravelly bottom. Across this brook has been constructed at some time in the past a small concrete structure, the bottom of which is approximately equal and in places even below the bottom of the natural brook. At either end of this concrete cut-off wall as well as in the approximate center are located concrete blocks in which slots have been made to receive planking. Two pieces of planking have been installed between each of the two pairs of slots so that at the day of inspection on September 9th, 1954, the planks formed a weir approximately 12" in height above the cut-off wall.

In one sense of the word, this weir could be considered a dam, since it is constructed across a stream having more than one square mile of drainage area. However, the weir could also be considered as a devise to prevent erosion of the brook in the outlet notch and thus to guarantee that over the years the level of Sherman Pond would not decrease in elevation.

Mr. Magrath explained to me that the procedure in the past had been to remove the planking from the notches in the Spring and the planking was again replaced in the Fall of each year. Thus, the level of Sherman Pond would be slightly lowered during the Spring and Summer season of each year. It is apparent from my field investigation that the removal of the 12" in height of planking would not decrease the level of Sherman Pond 12" since the brook shape through the notch is similar to a curved trough and consequently the removal of the planking, about 20 feet in length, more or less, would result in the width of the over-flow stream becoming narrower as the level of the pond decreased. Consequently to provide for the same quantity of out-flow since the width of the brook would be narrower, the depth of flow would of necessity have to be greater to maintain equal hydraulic conditions. It is my estimation that removal of the planking would probably decrease the elevation of Sherman Pond seven or eight inches. This decrease in water level would probably be sufficient to result in the drying up of the majority of the area of wet field that Mr. Magrath is now troubled with.

There is the possibility that since Sherman Pond is used for recreation and that since from hearsay evidence the Town of Brimfield had some sort of interest in the pond water for fire protection purposes, there might be in the Town records some agreement regarding the control of the level of Sherman Pond. If this is a fact it might be advisable for Mr. Magrath to check Town records during the years preceding or following the installation of the small cut-off wall and weir.

I have checked all of our old files and can find no reference to Sherman Pond or its outlet that would indicate that this pond, even in its present condition, with the removable weir across the outlet, is anything more than a natural pond and that the weir has not in the past been considered a dam.

Even if the weir were to be considered a dam, it presents no danger to the lives and safety of the public and of property downstream from the weir.

Consequently, in view of the above, and in view of all data and hearsay evidence that could be collected to date, regarding the Sherman Pond outlet, I would think that Mr. Magrath has a problem that can only be considered as a civil case and that the solution to the problem can only be made through either an agreement with the Owner of

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners

-3-

September 14, 1954

the land at the outlet brook, with others who might have an interest in the Sherman Pond level, or through the normal channels of legal action normally followed in a civil case.

Respectfully submitted,

GHM/emm

George H. McDonnell
County Hydraulic Engineer

THOMAS S. MAGRATH

Indian Hill Farms

Brimfield, Mass.

*see folder
Thomas S. Magrath
under dam in
Brimfield*

August 25, 1954

County Commissioners Hampden County
Court House Bldg.
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I own a farm in Brimfield near Lake Sherman. There is a dam at the power end of the lake.

To my knowledge the dam was installed by the Town of Brimfield with the idea of holding the water back for fire protection in the winter for the center of Brimfield.

Also that the plank were to be removed in the spring and replaced in the fall.

I contacted the selectmen (Mr. A. W. Gondek) on the matter the plank were removed for two or three days and have been replaced.

The water is flooding my meadow so that I can not work my land. I have lost at the present time three tons of hay cut but can not get it as there is so much water.

I wish you would give this matter some study at your earliest date as it will soon be time to harvest the second crop.

Yours very truly

Thomas S. Magrath

TIGHE & BOND
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

189 High St.
Holyoke, Massachusetts

September 14, 54

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Attention Thomas F. Sullivan, Chairman

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your letter of September 1st, 1954, in which you sent to me a copy of a letter received by your Board from Mr. Thomas S. Magrath of Brimfield, I have been to Brimfield, and report as follows:

The farm owned by Mr. Magrath in Brimfield, and in particular the field where he is having trouble, due to a wet condition, is located off of Brookfield Road, just northerly and upstream from Sherman Pond, near the center of the Town of Brimfield. I examined the field in question and found that the area of the field that is low lying and adjacent to East Brook, the stream that feeds Sherman Pond, was flooded to a depth of a few inches with water, and in certain sections was damp enough to present a problem in obtaining the hay growth from the field.

Sherman Pond is a natural pond fed by East Brook and drained to Mill Brook through the easterly section of the built up portion of Town. The outlet to Sherman Pond is a notch through which a brook flows that drains the over-flow from the pond. The notch or water-way is simply a small local valley a few feet in depth and 20 odd feet in width, and appears to have a natural sandy to gravelly bottom. Across this brook has been constructed at some time in the past a small concrete structure, the bottom of which is approximately equal and in places even below the bottom of the natural brook. At either end of this concrete cut-off wall as well as in the approximate center are located concrete blocks in which slots have been made to receive planking. Two pieces of planking have been installed between each of the two pairs of slots so that at the day of inspection on September 9th, 1954, the planks formed a weir approximately 12" in height above the cut-off wall.

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners

In one sense of the word, this weir could be considered a dam, since it is constructed across a stream having more than one square mile of drainage area. However, the weir could also be considered as a device to prevent erosion of the brook in the outlet notch and thus to guarantee that over the years the level of Sherman Pond would not decrease in elevation.

Mr. Magrath explained to me that the procedure in the past had been to remove the planking from the notches in the Spring and the planking was again replaced in the fall of each year. Thus, the level of Sherman Pond would be slightly lowered during the Spring and Summer season of each year. It is apparent from my field investigation that the removal of the 12" in height of planking would not decrease the level of Sherman Pond 12" since the brook shape through the notch is similar to a curved trough and consequently the removal of the planking, about 20 feet in length, more or less, would result in the width of the over-flow stream becoming narrower as the level of the pond decreased. Consequently to provide for the same quantity of out-flow since the width of the brook would be narrower, the depth of flow would of necessity have to be greater to maintain equal hydraulic conditions. It is my estimation that removal of the planking would probably decrease the elevation of Sherman Pond seven or eight inches. This decrease in water level would probably be sufficient to result in the drying up of the majority of the area of wet field that Mr. Magrath is now troubled with.

There is the possibility that since Sherman Pond is used for recreation and that since from hearsay evidence the Town of Brimfield had some sort of interest in the pond water for fire protection purposes, there might be in the Town records some agreement regarding the control of the level of Sherman Pond. If this is a fact it might be advisable for Mr. Magrath to check Town records during the years preceding or following the installation of the small cut-off wall and weir.

I have checked all of our old files and can find no reference to Sherman Pond or its outlet that would indicate that this pond, even in its present condition, with the removable weir across the outlet, is anything more than a natural pond and that the weir has not in the past been considered a dam.

Even if the weir were to be considered a dam, it presents no danger to the lives and safety of the public and of property downstream from the weir.

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners

Consequently, in view of the above, and in view of all data and hearsay evidence that could be collected to date, regarding the Sherman Pond outlet, I would think that Mr. Magrath has a problem that can only be considered as a civil case and that the solution to the problem can only be made through either an agreement with the Owner of the land at the outlet brook, with others who might have an interest in the Sherman Pond level, or through the normal channels of legal action normally followed in a civil case.

Respectfully submitted,

George H. McDonnell

George H. McDonnell

County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/emm

Cheney Dam



1950 Brimfield

Dam located on tributary of the Quinebaug River.

City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Cheney Dam
Name	Cheney, W B
Water	Quinebaug River

Page 3 of report

W. B. Cheney
Brimfield Mass.

you are notified that your dam,
located on a tributary of the Quinebaug River so
called in the town of Brimfield, etc.

"The dam appears to be stable even
if in a dilapidated looking condition because
of the neglect of minor repairs."

To prevent any further deterioration
of the structure it seems advisable
that these minor repairs should
be made

March 24, 1926

Mr. W. B. Cheney,
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on a tributary of the Quinebaug River so-called in the town of Brimfield, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"The dam appears to be stable even if in a dilapidated looking condition because of the neglect of minor repairs."

To prevent any further deterioration of the structure it seems advisable that these minor repairs should be made.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman.

August 23, 1950

W. B. Cheney
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located in Brimfield has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

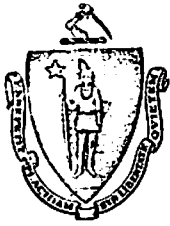
"In a recent inspection of your dam located in Brimfield, some leakage was noted at the base of the stonefill north of the old mill site. This leakage should be watched and if it increases, steps should be taken to stop it. The spillway was found to be plugged with boulders and humus, and should be cleaned."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Hampden

Springfield, Mass.

Office of the
County Commissioners
52 State Street

William F. Stapleton
~~Commissioner~~

~~Richard W. Fradet~~

Floyd W. Fradet

Stephen A. Moynahan,
Chairman

July 29, 1970

Mr. W.D. Cheney
Apple Road
Brimfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of dams in Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located on your property in Brimfield has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him concerning the maintenance of this dam.

"The embankment forming this dam was satisfactory as to shape. However, brush growth and tree growth is becoming quite thick and this growth should be removed so that the dam can be properly observed and inspected and so that growing root structure will not begin to damage and endanger the embankment. Some seepage was observed at the toe of the embankment but this condition is normal.

The spillway swale was found to be in satisfactory condition. Water in storage in the pond was at the crest of the spillway swale. A small quantity of water was seeping out through the stone lined swale spillway channel.

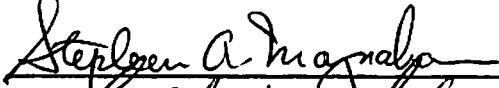
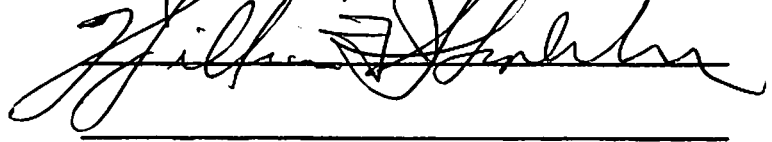
In the opinion of the undersigned, the dam is safe. However, as recommended a year ago, the owner should cut the brush and tree growth from the embankment and should develop a good growth of turf on this portion of the dam."

It is necessary that the dam be maintained in a satisfactory condition. The recommendations of the County Hydraulic Engineer should be followed and all brush and tree growth cut down and regrowth discouraged.

Any further information desired in connection with the recommendations contained herein, may be had by calling our Board or the County Hydraulic Engineer.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 3, 1937

Mr. William C. Moulton
Monson, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby notified that your dam on Blodgett Mill Brook in Brimfield has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"At this dam the concrete wall extending upstream from the southerly spillway abutment is in poor condition, with a part of it, towards its upstream end, broken down. The plank walls, also, of the sluiceway for drawing down the pond, are rotting out and the earth, which they supported, is falling into the sluice-way. It is recommended that the owner be notified of the need of repairs on these parts of the structure, if the pond is to be maintained, or otherwise the pond permanently drawn off."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman

MEMBER
AM. SOC. C. E.
INST. C. E. GREAT BRITAIN
ENG. INST. OF CANADA

JAMES L. TIGHE

CONSULTING ENGINEER
CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 189 HIGH STREET

HOLYOKE, MASS.

TELEPHONE 5525

MEMBER AM. INST. OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

WATER SUPPLY
SEWERAGE
SEWAGE DISPOSAL
ANALYSIS OF WATER

WATER POWER INVESTIGATIONS
AND DEVELOPMENT
DAMS AND POWER INSTALLATIONS
ESTIMATES AND APPRAISALS

October 31, 1939

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners
Hampden County, Court House
Springfield, Mass.

Charles W. Bray, Chairman,

Dear Sir:

Having recently made an inspection of the W. C. Moulton upper dam in Brimfield, (formerly belonging to the Brimfield Brick Company) I would recommend that the owner be notified of the need of certain repairs on this structure.

The concrete abutment wall at the southerly end of the spillway is in very poor condition and should be repaired or rebuilt. Likewise the sluiceway laid through the embankment is in poor condition and should be thoroughly overhauled or entirely rebuilt.

It is recommended, therefore, that these necessary repairs be made before the winter sets in, if the dam is to remain in service, or, if not, that the pond formed by the dam be drawn down, and a free waterway provided for the stream.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Tighe

November 1, 1939

Mr. W. C. Moulton
Palmer Lower Road
Monson, Mass.

Dear Sir:

After a recent examination by our engineer of your upper dam, located on Blodgett Mill Brook in Brimfield (formerly belonging to the Brimfield Brick Company) our engineer has recommended that your attention be called to the need of certain repairs on the structure, as follows:

The repairing or rebuilding of the southerly abutment wall of the spillway and the overhauling or rebuilding of the wood sluiceway through the embankment. These repairs should be made before the winter sets in, if the dam is to remain in service. Otherwise, the pond should be drawn down and a free water-way provided for the brook.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the repairs, as outlined above, be made within a reasonable time, or the pond drawn down and a free water-way provided for the brook.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Charles W. Bray
Chairman

Thos. J. Costello

Edward J. Stapleton

August 7, 1940

Mr. William C. Moulton

Monson, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby notified that your upper dam on Blodgett Mill Brook in Brimfield has been inspected by our engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"This dam is in poor condition and, as no repairs have been made on it for some time, it is probable that the owner does not consider it economical to make such repairs. If this is the case, a free water way for the brook should be made in or around the dam, or through the penstock location, in order to prevent pondage, which might be released and do damage downstream in times of flood flow."

In view of the above, it is ordered that if this dam is not to be repaired and maintained in proper condition, a free water way for the brook shall be made on or before October 1st, 1940.

Any further information you may desire regarding this dam will be furnished to you by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____ Chairman

October 3, 1945

Mr. William C. Moulton

Monson, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your upper dam on Blodgett Mill Brook in the town of Brimfield has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"The plank lining of the drain gate channel and the wood framework of the old drain gate are, through decay, etc; falling out of place into the channel bed, thus, obstructing the flow of water therein. This planking and all debris connected therewith, should be removed and the channel put in proper condition for the free discharge of water."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____ Chairman

Woodman Pond Dam fka Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam No 3



1950 Brimfield

Brimfield State Forest - dam located at Woodman Pond.

Abutters	Brimfield State Forest
City/Town	Brimfield
Dam	Woodman Pond Dam
Dam	Massachusetts Comm Conservation Dam No 3
Water	Woodman Pond

August 23, 1950

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
State House, Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam at Woodman Pond in the Brimfield State Forest, has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

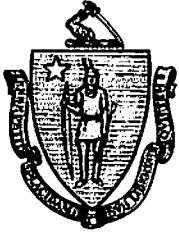
"In a recent inspection of your dam at Woodman Pond in the Brimfield State Forest, a leak was noticed through the spillway section in the vicinity of the drawoff pipe. The leakage flows from the stone structure of the spillway around the outside of the drawoff pipe. The leakage should be investigated. Logs in the auxiliary spillway should be removed."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Chairman



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Conservation

Division of Parks and Recreation

15 Ashburton Place, Boston 8

September 6, 1950

Mr. Thomas F. Sullivan, Chairman
Office of the County Commissioners
37 Elm Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Your letter of August 30, just received on my return to the office, regarding the condition at Woodman Pond, Brimfield State Forest, as reported by your engineer.

Mr. Arnold E. Howard, Parks Engineer for this Division, will check into this matter and contact your engineer at his very earliest opportunity regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "E. L. Gillett".

EDGAR L. GILLETT
Director

ELG:MO'B

*Copy of this letter mailed
to Mr. McDonnell
on Sept. 14, 1950.*

August 14, 1959

Board of Selectmen
Town Office
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams in Hampden County, the County Hydraulic Engineer, when making his inspections in Brimfield, pointed out that the highway fill on a road known as Dunhamtown Road, and also known as Brimfield Road, ponds water from time to time. The report of the Engineer is as follows:

"This is a highway culvert under Dunhamtown Road. The pond upstream of the culvert this year is larger than previously noted. However, because of the rainfall, this condition could result. Though the embankment carrying the road is not truly a dam, the site is inspected annually to be certain that a large pond of water is not dammed that could be released thru failure of the embankment to do damage to persons and property downstream.

The Town should be advised to keep the culvert passage free so that runoff can pass under the road without being ponded. "

The ponding of water at this site because of highway fill and a small culvert does not in itself constitute a dam coming under the jurisdiction of this Board. However, our Engineer suggested that we notify you of the condition in order that necessary maintenance may be done from time to time to keep the culvert free flowing and prevent the ponding of any large quantity of water.

If you desire any further information on this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ralph P. Walsh

William F. Stapleton

Francis M. O'Keefe

Acting
Commissioner

Aug. 13, 1969

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation
Brimfield State Forest
Brimfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45. et seq., of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of dams in Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the dam at Woodman Pond has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him concerning maintenance of this dam.

"The flood flow spillway located at the left end of the dam was noted to be in good condition. No flashboards were on the crest.

The service spillway was in satisfactory condition. Stoplogs were in the slots with the upper stoplog at the usual elevation. Water level in storage was at the elevation of the crest of the upper stoplog.

Sandy embankment fill located behind the left abutment at the pond side and in the corner of the service spillway has settled considerably. This material must be washing out from underneath, as a result of seepage discharged into the spillway channel at the old stone masonry construction.

If the settlement behind the abutment wall continues, the sandy fill should be dug out, voids in the masonry sealed, and then the fill replaced in layers and compacted.

The embankment portion of the dam was satisfactory. The road along the length of the embankment is in good condition and there is little evidence of settlement. Seepage at the toe of the embankment was noted to be normal.

In spite of the work needed at the abutment area, to the left of the service spillway and as outlined hereinbefore, the dam is in relatively good condition and is considered safe. "

Any further information desired in connection with the recommendations contained herein, may be had by calling our Board or the County Hydraulic Engineer.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



End of Book D03 ~ Dams ~ Town of Brimfield